

THE GREAT SAN JUAN

---

OF COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO



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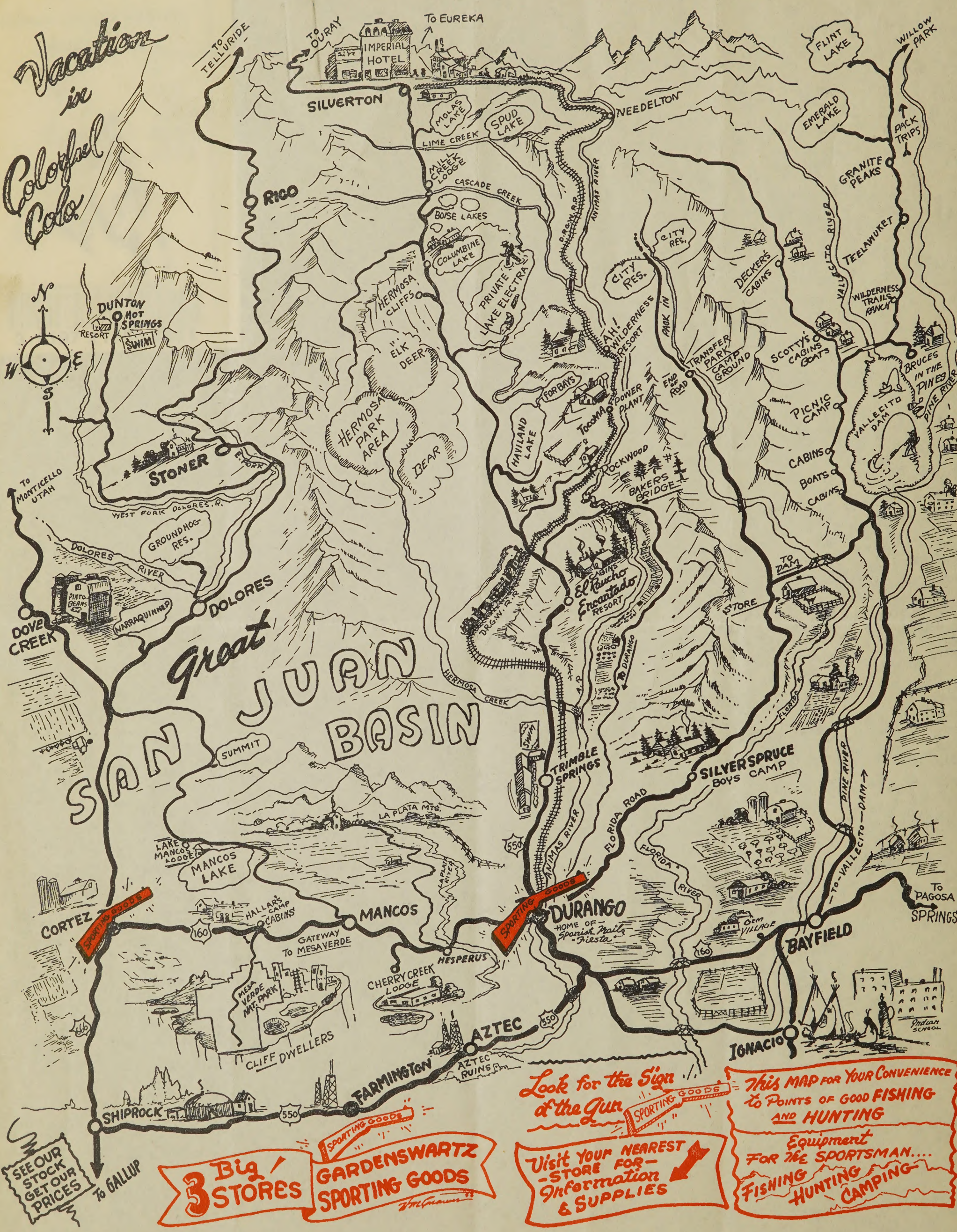
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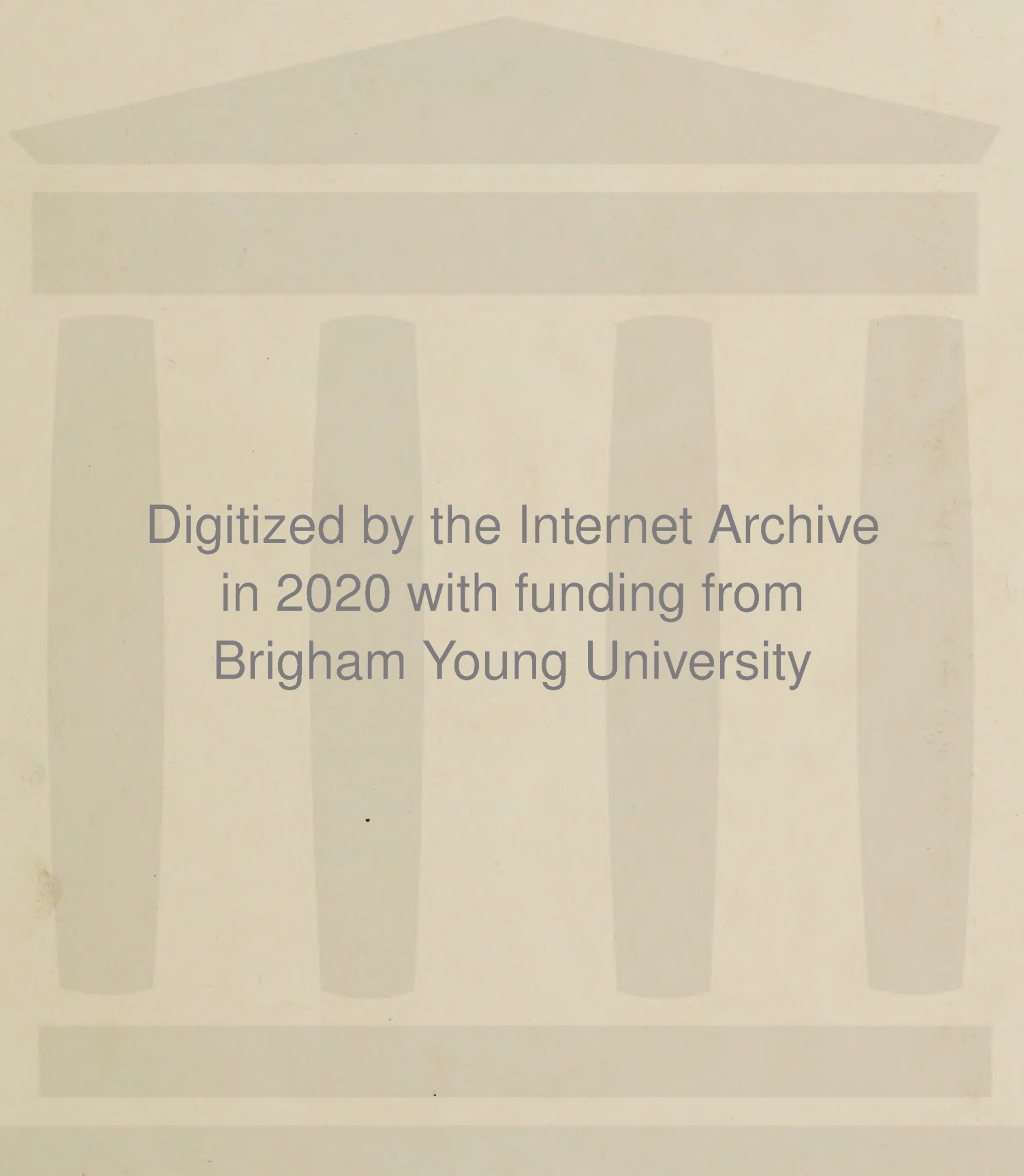
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.... THE ....  
**GREAT SAN JUAN**

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OF COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO



A BRIEF  
**HISTORY OF THE EARLY DAYS**

SUPPLEMENTED BY A REVIEW OF THE  
VAST NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE

**SAN JUAN COUNTRY**



**Durango, The Smelter City**

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Her Financial, Commercial and Industrial  
Interests, Present and Future.



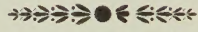
Published by  
**THE DURANGO DEMOCRAT**  
Durango, Colorado

Written by  
**R. COPELAND ROHRABACHER**  
Special Writer

DECEMBER  
**1 9 0 1**



# Greeting.



"The Great San Juan" is herewith presented to the public. It is intended both as a Chronicle and as a Herald. In declaring for it this double mission, the publishers realize that the limited scope of the work precludes the possibility of fulfilling either purpose to the extent of which the subject admits; and they have, accordingly, more closely confined the historical data than that pertaining to the resources and industries which contribute to the wealth of this great undeveloped empire,—for undeveloped it is, despite the wonderful richness of its

publication, concerning its value, they have been obliged to omit mention of many persons and interests that would otherwise have embellished and added to the value of the magazine.

It will be observed that there is little special matter concerning other localities than Durango. The reason for this is two-fold. Primarily, it was the original intention of the publishers to confine this class of matter more particularly to the metropolis and hub of the San Juan—Durango. Secondly, sectional jealousies would



DURANGO'S "CENTURY PLANTS."

Photo by Gonner.

mines, its great lumbering interests, its enormous coal production, its agriculture, its commerce and its manufactures.

The difference between chronology and advertising, to speak plainly, is largely the same that exists between interest and value; and, while it is desirable that interest attach to this work, it is of infinitely greater importance that it prove of value to the San Juan: hence the excess of attention paid to vital interests.

The publishers regret that there is not more special data in connection with "The Great San Juan"; but, owing either to the great expense of the work, or to views that are at variance with those of the men, firms and corporations that have contributed to the success of the

have rendered it impossible to secure representative presentations from localities for a work emanating from a rival community. Notwithstanding this unfortunate feeling the work is presented with the hope that it may redound to the welfare of all.

Accredit:—The data for the historical matter contained in the following pages has been partially gleaned from admirable articles on the San Juan, written by Richard McCloud, secretary of the Durango board of trade, and Miss Emma Hollingsworth, historian of the San Juan Pioneer Association. The photographs from which the half-tone engravings have been made are principally the work of Frank Gonner, F. S. Balster and C. H. Peters, of Durango, and Brumfield of Silverton.





# The Great San Juan.

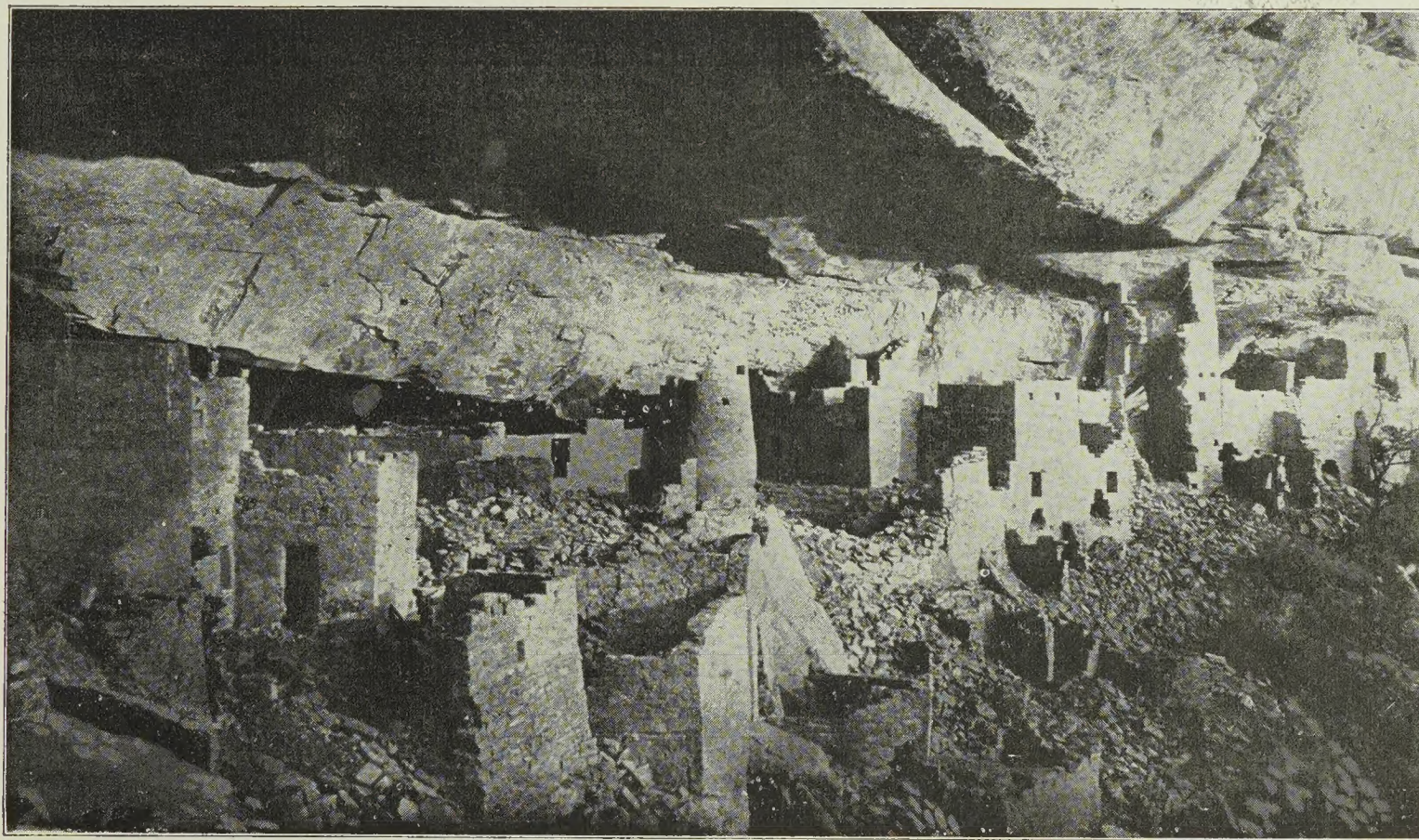
OF COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO.

## Brief Historical Review.

The earliest authentic record extant concerning the sections of Colorado and New Mexico known as the "San Juan country" comes down a vista of centuries to the present time. In 1541, with between a thousand and twelve hundred men under his command, Vasquez Coronado headed an expedition from Old Mexico, in quest of "Quivira, the City of Temples." This ancient municipality, real or mythical, was surrounded by all the fascination of mystery, and legend had it that its temples were adorned with gold and silver.

route from the old town of Santa Fe to upper California, and a small army under Padre Silvestra Velez Escalante, crossed the country watered by the Florida, Animas, Plata, Mancos, Dolores, Pinos and Piedras rivers, these beautiful streams being christened by the venerable padre, who gave them the musical and poetical names they still bear.

There is no record of another invasion of this virgin country until 1833, more than half a century later. In that year Col. Wm. G. Walton, in command of a party of



THE MANCOS RUINS, MESA VERDE.

Photo by Balster.

On this expedition the adventurous Coronado traversed the Eden of the Southwest, since famous for fertility of soil, salubrity of climate, mountain grandeur and mineral wealth. He returned without having found the mysterious "Quivira," but with tales of a wonderful country, abounding in natural beauty and wealth, and with the first reliable information concerning the famous Mancos cliff dwellings given to the world.

Later explorations, developing the fact that certain of the exhumed mummies have flaxen hair, would seem to indicate, even more than the peculiar character of the habitations, now centuries in ruins, that a race entirely different to our Indian aborigine once held sway on this continent; though there are many distinguished archaeologists at issue on the point, and it will probably ever remain a knotted question for scientists to ponder.

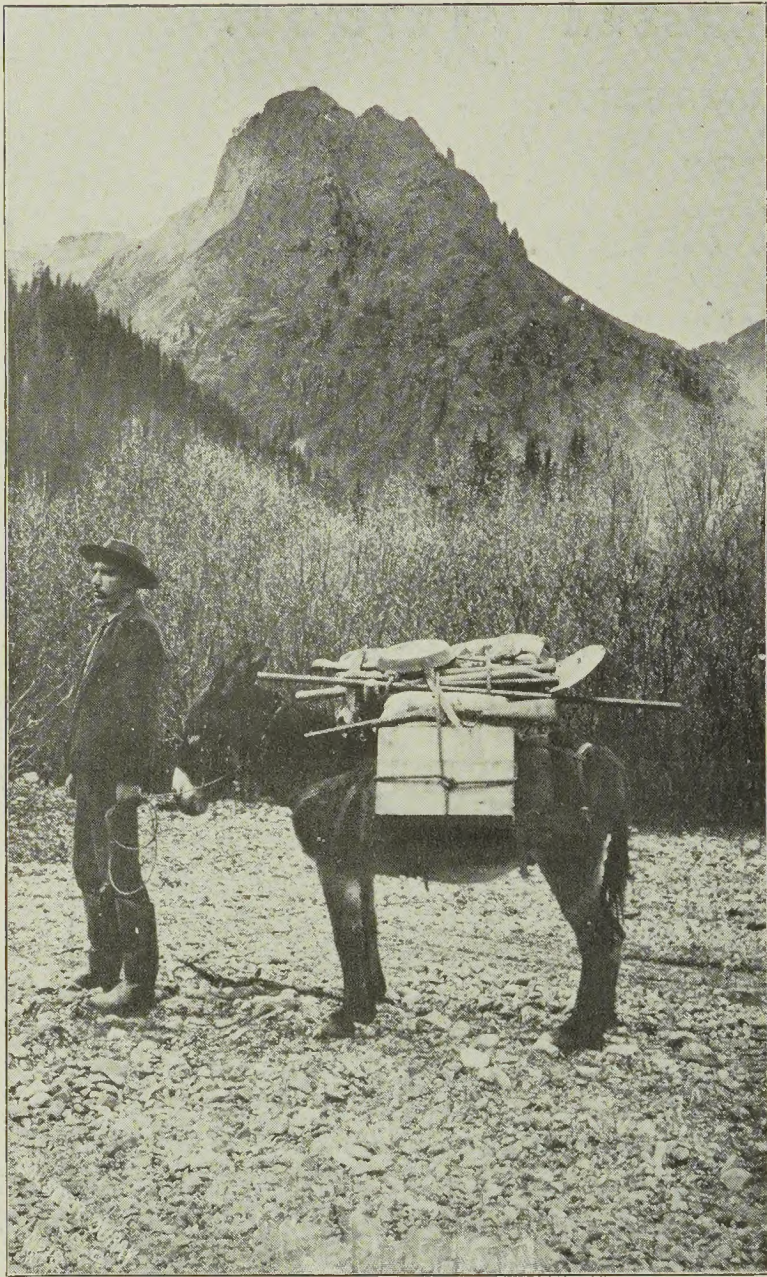
The year of the American Declaration of Independence, Padre Junipera Serra, of the California missions, prevailed upon the ecclesiastics of Mexico to blaze a

hunters and trappers sent out by a St. Louis fur company, entered southwestern Colorado, and camped for the summer in the vicinity of Trout Lake, in what is now San Miguel county. The party returned to St. Louis at the end of the season, and another period of years elapsed during which nothing of historic interest transpired in the great unclaimed wilderness. In 1879, the then aged colonel returned to the scene of his early encampment and easily distinguished the marks blazed by his party forty-six years before.

The wide area embraced in the San Juan is a portion of the territory purchased by the United States government from Mexico under the Guadalupe Hidalgo treaty, of 1848. The entire tract covers more than half a million square miles, and the consideration of \$15,000,000.00 now barely represents the value of a single mine. This undeveloped empire lay practically dormant until the early 60-s, when a few white settlers, mostly prospectors and miners, entered the country.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN.



"PIONEERS."

### EARLY COUNTIES.

In 1861, the county of Guadalupe, encompassing within its boundaries the greater portion of southwestern Colorado, was created by act of the territorial legislature. The same year the Baker expedition made camp on the upper Animas and prospected for gold, having been attracted thither by reports of fabulously rich placer diggings. This party met with disappointment, and Captain Baker narrowly escaped death at the hands of his own men, who, under the influence of liquor, became mutinous and deliberately planned revenge upon their leader for the failure of the expedition. Three years later the boundaries of Guadalupe county were altered and the name changed to Conejos.

### RIO GRANDE COUNTY.

In 1874, Rio Grande county was separated from Conejos. Del Norte, the present county seat, is much older, however, having been the initial of those early settlements about which the infant civilization grew and flourished. This frontier point was called the "mother of towns," and the pioneer settlers of the interior left their cabins and tents with the first cold wave to winter in Del Norte. During the months of ice and snow this Mecca of the wilderness harbored many of the history-makers of this epoch, and good cheer prevailed despite the wintry blasts.

Del Norte was incorporated in 1871, by C. Carry French, Gus Begole and James Phillips, and the first election was held in a clump of willows on the Rio Grande. Few of the settlers spoke English, the Mexican population being in the majority, and still fewer spoke both English and Spanish. Such of the latter as there were assumed charge of the polls. A count of the ballots resulted in the election of Fred C. Sherwin, clerk and recorder, Samuel C. Townsend, sheriff, and Oliver P. Posey, treasurer. The first representatives were Hon. Adair Wilson for the senate, and Thomas Trippe and R. J. McNutt for the house. The first newspaper was the Prospector, owned by Nick Lambert and edited by Adair Wilson, the initial number of which appeared in '71.

The early pioneers of Rio Grande county, like those of nearly all portions of Colorado, came in quest of gold, and the crystal streams of the west were transformed into muddy torrents by the hand of the placer miner. The history of mining has taught, however, that where nuggets and gold dust are found quartz lodes also exist, and it is not surprising that history here repeated itself. The Little Annie was the first quartz mine discovered in Rio Grande county, having been located by F. H. Brant, in 1870. Since that time both placer and quartz mining has been carried on in the county, in the vicinity of Summit, and many fortunes have been wrested from their mountain vaults. But ranching and grazing have been no less important industries, and of late years considerable boring for oil has been done.

### HINSDALE COUNTY.

Another slice of Conejos was clipped off in 1874, and organized as Hinsdale county, with San Juan as the county seat. San Juan is located at the mouth of Clear Creek, in Antelope park, on the old Indian trail from San Luis to the Animas canon. Shortly after the organization of the county the seat was removed to Lake City, and the first term of court was held there by Judge Hallett, in 1876.

The first silver mine discovered in Hinsdale county was located by Peter Robinson and was called the Scotland; but the Hotchkiss, now the Golden Fleece, was the first great mine, and is still rated one of the richest mines in the state. The Ute and Ulay, still good mines, were located soon after, and have been worked continuously until the present day. The first quartz mill erected, was operated by John J. Crooke, for many years a resident of Lake City, but later of Silverton.

Lake City's first settlers were Hotchkiss, Mullen, Meade, Goodwin and Finley, who reared the first cabin on the townsite and stocked it with a winter's supply of venison killed in their dooryard, now about the center of the town. These days are long past, but deer and other large game may yet be found within a day's tramp through the mountains.

### LA PLATA COUNTY.

The year 1874 has to its credit the organization of yet another county—La Plata, the richest in natural resources of all the counties of southwestern Colorado. Parrott City was the first county seat. The town was founded by the Moss party, under John Moss, who was the agent of the Parrott Brothers, prominent bankers of San Francisco. Among the first county officers were Major E. H. Cooper, clerk and recorder; A. R. Lewis, treasurer, and Dick Giles, sheriff—all appointees. John Moss was



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on the first board of county commissioners. Lieut. Tom McElnal, Giles, Chubbock, Bennet, Lee, Reinhart, Putnam and "Big Aleck" Fleming were early settlers, many of whom were engaged in placer mining near Parrott.

The Ute Indian reservation then embraced practically all of La Plata county, and these redskins grazed large herds and tilled the soil in a rude way. They never took kindly to the whites, and, when it became an established fact that the mountains of this region were vast treasure houses of gold, silver, copper and lead, they assumed an even more menacing attitude to the miners and prospectors who intruded upon their hereditary domains. Affairs were nearing a crisis, and a clash seemed imminent, when the government averted disaster by purchasing from the Utes 3,000,000 acres of land, whereby the reservation was partially thrown open to the mighty march of civilization which followed. Mining claims were located, mines developed, smelters built, ranches

mous ditch system. The supply is never inadequate, and the result has been to make good crops a certainty.

To add to the bounties of a country blessed by nature with fertile soil, equable climate, a wealth of timber and mineral, practically inexhaustible coal deposits were discovered. It is excellent in quality, is easily mined, and has more than anything else invited the manufactories that have been established here. It was the recognition of these exceptional facilities that induced the owners of the New York smelter, at Silverton, to remove their plant to Durango in 1880, thereby giving birth to the Smelter City and the present metropolis of southwestern Colorado.

But we are ahead of our story. In the fall of 1861, Animas City was laid out by the Baker and Howard parties, that had spent the preceding summer searching for gold in Baker's park. They wintered on this historic spot, where they were joined by Kit Carson, that ubiquitous



ANIMAS VALLEY, ABOVE DURANGO.

filed on and improved, sawmills began to reap the rich timber harvest of this great lumbering section, towns were built and commerce and manufacture followed. All industries thrived, and the wilderness of the southwest was transformed into an empire. The phases of this metamorphosis were swift and permanent.

One of the first homesteads filed upon was the Home Ranch, owned by Lamb, and it is one of the most highly improved ranches in this section. The Waterfall Ranch, located about the same time, is also a valuable estate. T. A. Kerr, C. E. Dudley and Joseph Wallace are other old-timers and prosperous ranchers who located in the Animas valley. The products of the ranches are chiefly fruits, vegetables, potatoes, grain and alfalfa, to which soil and climate seem particularly adapted. Thousands of acres are under irrigation, the water being drawn from the Animas and its tributaries, and distributed by an enor-

knight of the west whose valor is told in the annals of so many localities. Indeed, had he not been of their party during that winter, of '61-62, it is doubtful if any of the founders of this oldest settlement of the Animas would have survived until spring. The Indians were threatening and a massacre would have surprised no one.

It is related of George Howard that he traded fifty lots, a horse and a wagon to Col. Pollock, who came in with supplies during the early spring, for thirty-five pounds of flour, on which he worked all summer until he reached Denver, where he enlisted as a drummer boy in the federal army, in which capacity he served throughout the war of the rebellion.

Up to 1876, people who traveled between the points where Silverton and Durango now are of necessity traversed the old Indian trail over the mountains. In that year C. Weightman began the construction of a



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wagon road along the Animas river, and at the end of two years it was completed. Road making in the Rockies means cuts and fills of solid rock in many places and the expense of thousands of dollars to the mile. Fortunately not all of the road by the Animas was of this character, but parts of it were, and no one who has not had obstacles of a similar nature to overcome can appreciate the undertaking it was to cut this first highway. Much has been said against the toll system and toll roads have almost become a thing of the past; but there was no one who did not willingly pay his toll to traverse the Animas

of platting was the spring of '80. They received their land patents in February and March of the following year, and, on April 9th, 1881, an election was called to incorporate the town of Durango. In all, 412 votes were cast, only four of which opposed incorporation. The first meeting of the mayor and town trustees was held May 16th of the same year. Durango was shortly made the county seat and fairly launched upon a career of growth and prosperity. Like all communities it has had temporary setbacks, but, all considered, its development has been remarkably steady and healthy.



ANIMAS RIVER  
IN SUMMER.

HAMER LAKE, NEAR ROCKWOOD.

ANIMAS RIVER  
IN SPRING.

road, and none who criticised Mr. Weightman for anticipating the county in his enterprise. A few years later the officials of the Rio Grande railroad awakened to the importance and great future of this favored section and sent an engineering corps in to survey a feasible route for an extension of its road from Durango north. The route chosen lay along the Animas, almost parallel with the wagon road, and trains were running between the Smelter City and the City of Mines before the end of summer, 1882.

With the advent of the smelter comes the town-builder. If no other enterprise or industry had ever developed here, the smelter would have made a town, but the founders of Durango were men who saw more than this, and, with prophetic zeal, set to laying out the town-site. The promoters of the town were Dr. A. W. Bell, of Manitou, and Hon. J. A. Porter, of Denver, and the time

### SAN JUAN COUNTY.

From the first the interests of the commercial, manufacturing, coal and timber-producing section of La Plata and the mining district to the north have been reciprocal, though their industries have been radically different. When San Juan county was severed from La Plata by act of the territorial legislature this relationship was not marred, and it will never be possible for either county to prosper without reflecting prosperity on the other and contributing to the growth of the sister cities.

The advent of the Baker party, in 1861, has already been noted. From that time until '70 various parties entered the country now within the limits of San Juan county, prospected for placer gold and went their way. The 60-s had counted their nine before any prospecting

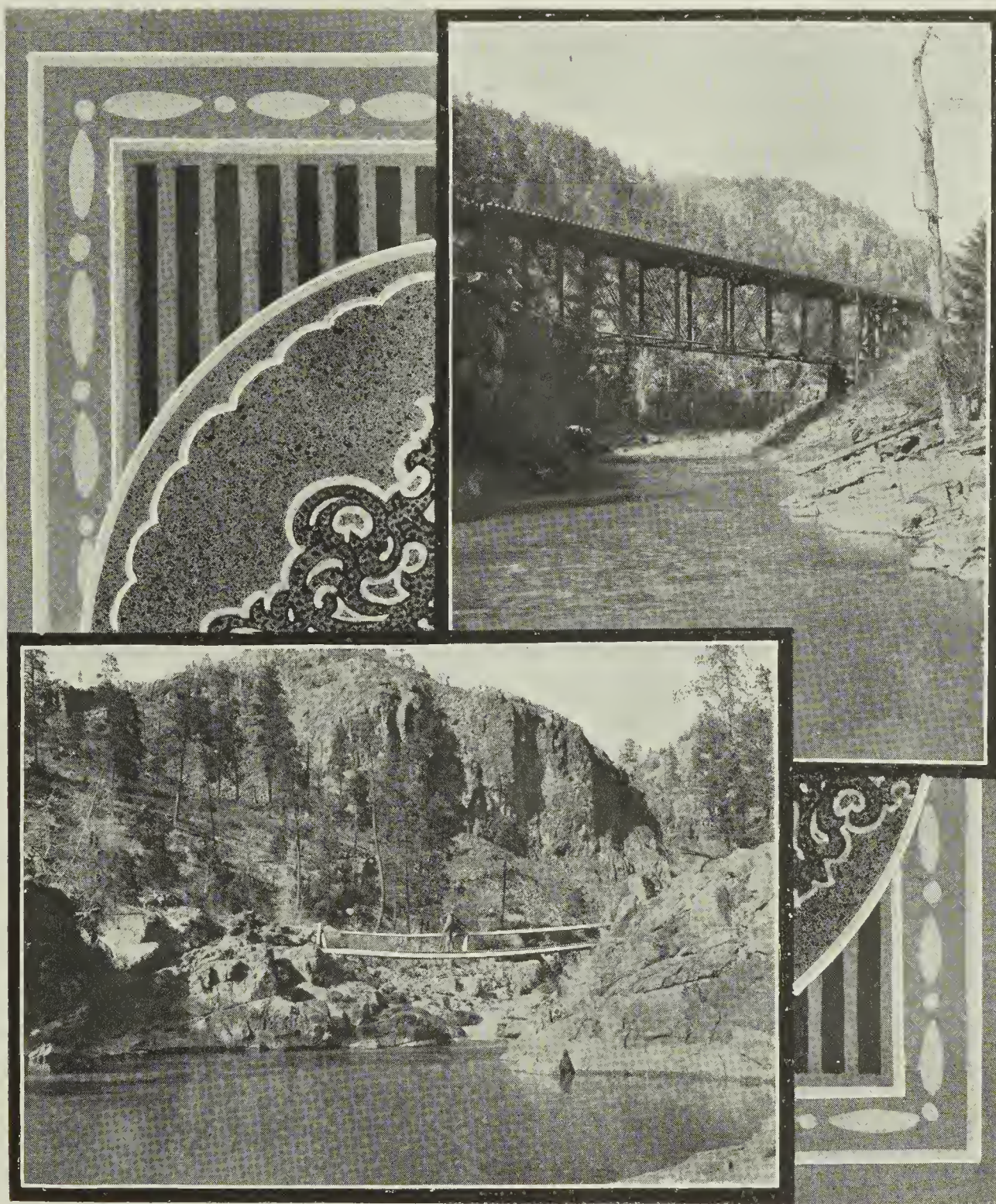


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for silver was dreamed of, and the early comers walked over millions in gold, silver, copper and lead even as many today, without thought of the treasures about them. These pioneers braved the hardships of mountain trails and the perils incident to life among unfriendly Indians, and many of them perished, among them the original Baker party, which was massacred almost to a man on the San Miguel river, in 1867. Those who came with the early 70-s hazarded no less, perhaps more. Ingress and egress were not improved, certainly, and though increas-

of this section and one of the most highly respected of all the old pioneers. The following June six more were added to the scanty population, but in those days a half dozen men might double any one of a score of towns in population, and a woman might double the feminine population of a county. Other parties came in during the summer. The season was drawing to a close when the first locations were made in what is now known as Eureka district.

By the summer of '72 there were about seventy-five



SCENES ON D. AND R. G. RAILROAD BETWEEN DURANGO AND SILVERTON.

ing numbers added strength it also added aggravation to the Indians who were becoming more and more jealous of the encroachments of the whites.

The Little Giant, in Arastra Gulch was the first lode claim discovered in San Juan county. It was located by Miles Johnston and Adnab French, in the fall of '70. In the spring of '71 another party, of which George Howard was a member, came in. Howard, after whom Howardsville, at one time the county seat of San Juan county, was named, was closely identified with the early history

men in and about Baker's park. Maj. Hamilton had purchased the Little Giant, and had installed a quartz mill, brought in with great difficulty over the mountains. June 15th, of that year, an election was held in Arastra Gulch, and Mr. Weightman was chosen county clerk. His official duties were confined to the recording of mining claims, for which he received two dollars a claim, jotting down his memoranda in a pocket notebook. This besmirched and frayed book has been in evidence in court in many notable cases of litigation in later years.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN



"BUCKSKIN CHARLIE," UTE SUB-CHIEF.

The town of Silverton had its birth the following year. George Grune & Co., Calder Rouse & Co., Dempsey Reese, Wm. Mulholland, F. M. Snowden, K. Benson, N. E. Slaymaker, Thos. Blair and Wm. Kerns were members of the original town company. Dempsey Reese was the first mayor. The county seat was removed from Howardsville to Silverton in '74, and the first regularly elected officers of the county were John Ufford, clerk and recorder; J. E. Jones, judge; Jack Grenelle, sheriff; J. M. Hanks, superintendent of schools; Peter Robinson, assessor; Wm. Munroe, surveyor, and Thos. Pollock, coroner. The county commissioners were R. J. Carley, T. M. Trippe and Alex. Fleming, respectively, of the 1st., 2nd., and 3rd. districts. J. M. Hanks was the first postmaster of Silverton; the first number of the La Plata Miner, now the Silverton Miner, was issued July 10, 1875; and Judge Hallett held U. S. district court in August of the same year.

The first sawmill was brought in by H. F. Tower, who, with Mrs.

Tower, then a bride of nineteen, came in over Indian trails in '73. It was with great difficulty that the plant was brought in, and at enormous expense, the freight charge being sixteen cents a pound over the mountains. Those of the present day, who are horrified by railroad freight tariffs would do well to reflect upon this and be philosophical for the nonce. Mrs. Tower was the first white woman in Baker's park.

Among the great mines of the early days were the Highland Mary, the Aspen, the Congress, the Pride of the West and the Pelican. Since then scores of bonanzas have been discovered, and tens of millions have been paid in dividends on properties to which the eyes of the red man, and for years those of his white visitor, were blind. This is only more gratifying than interesting, in the light of the fact, if it is a fact, that the reds themselves, having climbed to the summit of Sultan mountain, in years ago, gazing upon the beautiful natural park where Silverton now nestles, said: "Let the white man have it."

Before passing to another section of the San Juan, fitting tribute should be paid to Otto Mears, known all over the southwest as the "Pathfinder." This old pioneer ferreted out the ways and trails through the mountains and constructed a veritable network of toll roads connecting the principal points of the San Juan. It will, perhaps, be said that he was prompted by motives of investment. Well, say, and then reflect that public spirit partakes more of enterprise than folly, and that the man who spent his thousands in road-building was entitled to the recompense paid by such as chose to travel his way.

### DOLORES COUNTY.

The historian of Dolores county, like him of La Plata and San Juan, will meet among the first who entered the county during the 60s, the Baker party. A few hunters and trappers preceded this expedition, but the Baker outfit was probably the first that prospected to any extent in the county. Soon after followed the Col. Nash, McClain and Ralteck party, from the south. In 1869, Sheldon Shaffer and Joe Fearheiler, old and experienced miners, en route to Montana, paused in the vicinity of Rico to



SILVERTON, COLORADO.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

prospect, locating the Pioneer-1869 and Nigger Baby, the former embracing portions of the Shamrock, Smuggler and Riverside lodes. The Nigger Baby received its name from the large deposits of black oxide of manganese found, and, in turn, gave its name to the famous Nigger Baby hill, on which it was located. In 1870, R. C. Darling, in charge of a government engineering corps, ascended the Dolores river, and two years later returned to locate ground that had attracted his interest.

A smelter was built and was in operation in the early 70-s; but it was not until '78 and '79 that the rush came, and with it the extensive operations that made Rico one of the great mining camps of the world. In the latter year Senator Jones, of Nevada, and some Missouri capitalists paid \$100,000.00 for a group of mines, of which the Wide Awake, Yellow Jacket and Grand View were the principal claims. The boom was on, and it lasted until the repeal of the Sherman silver purchasing clause dealt a death blow to the mining industry as far as the white metal was concerned.

"Dead as Rico!" What more could be said? Certainly nothing by way of exaggeration. Other camps were paralyzed; but most of these in due time recovered, and some, like Leadville, became greater than ever. Rico was the long dead, and why? Was it because, unlike her sister silver camps, she lacked other mineral resources? Leadville, Ouray, Telluride, Silverton—all found gold, and the "Silver San Juan" was transformed into a "Golden San Juan." Where was the difficulty? It was not any difference of geological formation. Briefly stated it was because the Rico holdings, with one or two notable exceptions were not in the hands of capital at the time of the collapse. When Swickhimer sold the Enterprise for a fabulous consideration and capital began to manifest an interest in the camp, every one had a bonanza. There was not a prospect in the entire district. Every man who had a hole in the ground asked the price of a mine for it, and, very naturally, capital went elsewhere for investment. When the crash came, instead of men of means having money tied up in the ground about Rico, they had it in



SODA LAKE, NEAR RICO.

Those days of '93 were tragic times for Rico, and, for that matter, for a score of camps of the state that contributed to the general wealth and prosperity. Towns were deserted, and the streets of Rico, at one time the liveliest of the lively, are today lined with long-vacant buildings, now fallen into decay.

The Enterprise Hotel, once, as is the case in every mining town, the point of gravitation for hundreds of promoters, miners and camp characters, showed evidences of the panic more than any other portion of the town. There were no more confusion of voices and noisy jostle of crowds in the general assembly room to ring nightly through the corridors. The hostelry passed from boniface to boniface, and now is conducted by William Mosier, whose annual rental is but a trifle of that the house commanded in its palmy days. Mr. Mosier maintains the house on a first-class basis, though the patronage is wholly inadequate to justify such expenditure.

other localities, and it was in other districts they spent money in development to make good their investments. In Rico the ground remained in the hands of the poor bonanza kings of the latter 80-s, many of whom abandoned their homes to go underground for employers to whom they might have sold their undeveloped claims for snug sums. As other camps revived and Rico remained somnolent, it is not surprising that the stricken district sank even deeper into its lethargy. But the day of awakening was destined to come and it is here, though years tardy. But, to avoid further digression, that subject must be left for the present.

Returning to the early history of the county, the data at hand leaves few items to mention. In August, '79, Mrs. William Embling and Mrs. Henry Knight, the first white women in Rico, arrived. On the 31st day of the same month the first issue of the Dolores News appeared, it having been printed on the press of the La Plata Miner.



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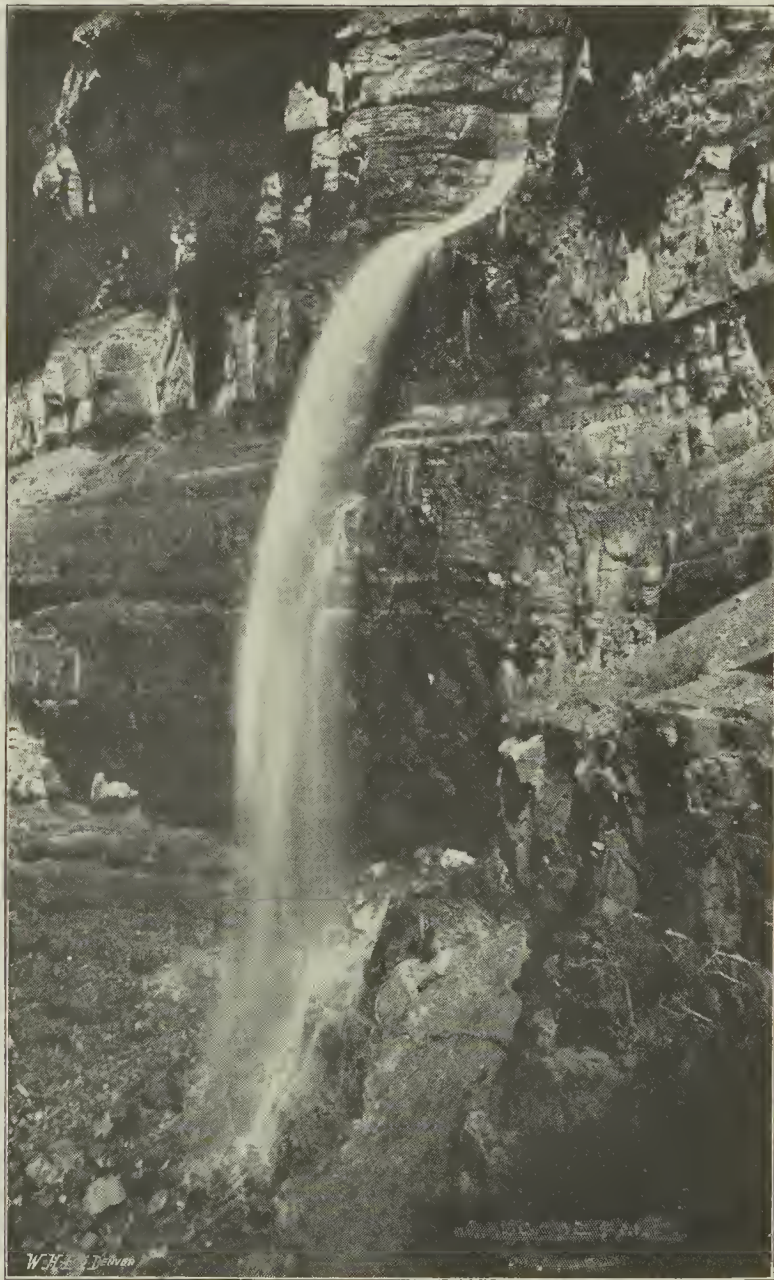
at Silverton. The post office was established in September, 1879, A. K. Prescott being the first postmaster and the mail route being across the Ophir range. A month later the first freight via Silverton was received at Rico, the charges being fifteen cents a pound from the railroad, reasonable enough considering the trails. During the summer of '79 surveys were made and Rico townsite platted, but it was not until the fall of the year that the town was organized. About this time Rico suffered its first and only Indian scare. It was soon after the Meeker massacre, and the Utes were ugly, but the new camp was soon restored to its normal peace. Dolores county was organized in 1883, and Rico was the county seat from the start.

### OURAY COUNTY.

Ouray is one of the most beautiful as well as one of the wealthiest counties in the San Juan. The county was organized in 1877, but the town of Ouray flourished long before that date, as did also many of the mines. Ouray, the city, and Ouray, the county, were named after the Ute chief of that name, who was the loved of his tribe and of the whites as well. He was one of the conspicuous few of his race who has welcomed rather than opposed civilization, and will be so chronicled in history.

The first city officers of Ouray were Ira J. Munn, Theron Stevens and M. W. Cline. Stevens was a blacksmith in the early days, and ran a shop in Ouray until he had mastered the law, which he studied when not engaged at his trade. He later entered the office of Judge Story as a partner, and the firm of Story & Stevens has since been one of the strongest associations of legal talent in southwestern Colorado. Judge Stevens has been the recipient of honors and a liberal contributor of services throughout his career, and Ouray owes much to his generous public spirit.

The first county officers were appointed, and among them were A. E. Long, clerk; Abraham Cutler, Judge; W. W. Stoddard, treasurer, and C. P. Goss, sheriff. Long was one of the original owners of the celebrated Bachelor mine, still a big producer and one of the best properties of the county. The Wheel of Fortune, Virginius,



CASCADE FALLS, OURAY

Trout and Fisherman, Grand View and Great Western were other great mines of the day. The Grand View was located by Prof. Hayden, during his last geological survey for the government. The Virginius was and is probably the best known of them all; though, of later days, the Revenue Tunnel and Camp Bird are of equal celebrity.

Among the early pioneers to the county were Geo. A. Scott, Dave Fraker, Jesse Benton, Gordon Kimball, Dr. W. W. Rowan, Francis Carney and W. W. Dresser. An early location that excited considerable attention at the time, but which is now forgotten by all but the "early birds," was Mineral Farm, located by Gus Begole, whom we have met elsewhere in the San Juan.

It frequently occurs that a single man by a spectacular debut upon the stage of success will do more to make a locality widely known than a

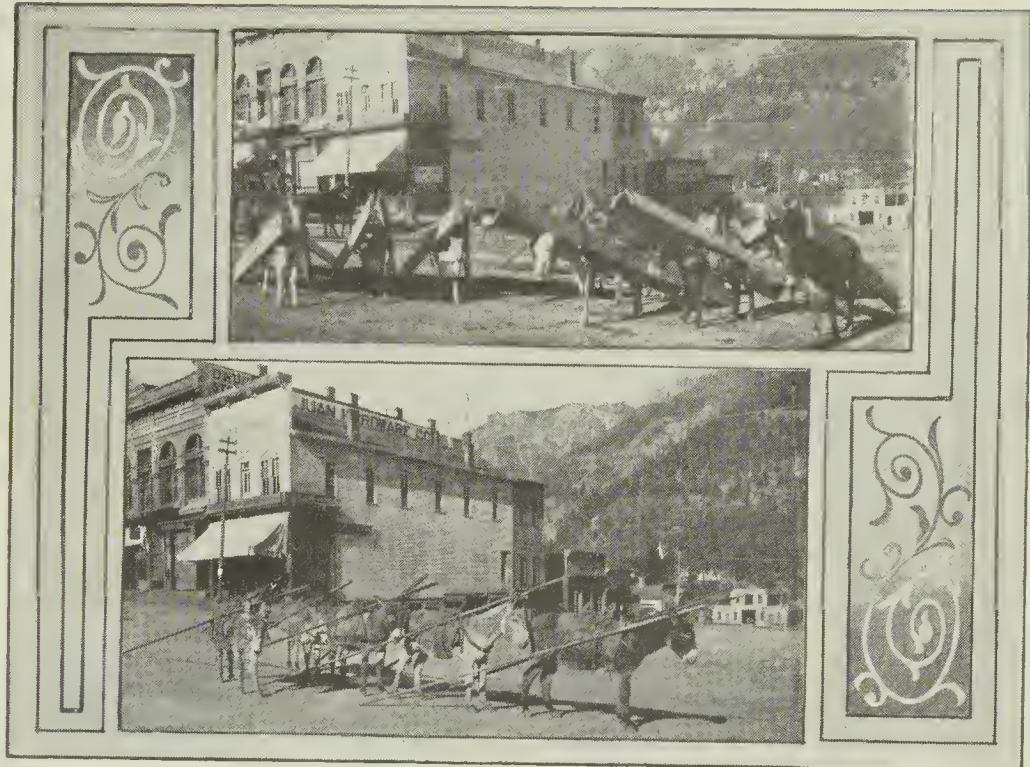


OURAY, COLORADO.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN.

score of bonanza mines quietly operated. This has been the case in Ouray. Any one of the great producers of the district is sufficient to familiarize the name with mining men the world over; but it took Thomas F. Walsh, the meteoric millionaire of recent time, to teach the name to all who read. Mr. Walsh has been one of the mining kings of the west who has risen upon his aureate ladder into a stratum quite his own, and heads crowned and menial have lifted their eyes to behold. But whatever charges of ostentation may mingle with envy, throughout his career as a dazzler of princes and kings, the American Walsh has remained the American, approachable and courteous alike to high and lowly. The publicity of the press has never been courted, and what has been written and read modestly deprecated by him.



BURRO TRAIN, LADEN WITH STEEL AND TIMBER FOR THE MINES.

### SAN MIGUEL COUNTY.

Until 1883, San Miguel county was a part of Ouray county, but was that year severed and separately organized. As in the mother county, the mines of San Miguel had been operated long before the organization of Ouray.



MOUNT SNEFFLES IN WINTER.

Ophir was the metropolis, with its handful of miners, and Trout Lake, in its pristine rudeness, was the pleasure resort of the section. Of later years, the erstwhile center of population has yielded the distinction to Telluride; but the lake has become more popular than ever. Ophir, however, has not suffered retrogression. Its location forbade the growth in population possible to its successor, but it did not stand in the way of more extensive mining operations than were originally carried on, and with development these have yearly expanded.

Mining nomenclature is replete with anomalies. One of the strangest is to be found in the naming of Silver Hill, near Ophir. This rich hill was evidently named before pick and shovel had marred its rugged sides. Those were the days of silver, but it was gold that was found here, and the Suffolk and Valley View were famous gold mines, both located on Silver Hill. Geoble & Lane built a stamp mill for the treatment of ore from these mines, at Ophir, in the early days. The Gold King is also on Silver Hill and the Gold King tunnel pierces the mountain, through solid rock, to Turkey creek basin, where the company's stamp mill is located. This property is also one of the large gold producers of the district.

Telluride was incorporated in 1878. The original name of the town was Columbia, but the name was changed to correspond with the mineral preponderating in the mines of the vicinity, i. e., telluride of gold. Geo. W. Hyde was the first mayor. The first settler of the district was an Englishman, with more pounds sterling than love for populous communities, who built a handsome residence in this out-of-the-way place. His mansion was afterwards occupied by J. H. E. Waters, an eminent mining authority, who was many years manager of the Union and Smuggler mines for a Chinese syndicate. These great properties, now known as the Smuggler-Union, were the scene of the recent strike in Telluride that terminated in bloodshed and disorder, necessitating the governor to dispatch troops to the mines. They were also the scene of the more recent disaster in which more than a score of miners perished in the levels.

The Union was located in 1875 and the Smuggler two years later. The former was staked by Con Burns. The Sheridan and Cimarron, also in Marshall basin, were located in '75 and '76 by John Fallin and Joe Carpenter, re-



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

spectively. These are all dividend-payers today, and are only a few of many that have yielded their tons of yellow gold to the genius of the modern mining man.

Among the pioneers to San Miguel county were M. J. Alkire, mine-owner; Frank Kramer, surveyor; Geobel, merchant, and James Vance, rancher. Vance's ranch lay between Telluride and Vance Junction, named in his honor. There were many other fine ranches in this mountain county, and, in the days of bad wagon roads and no railroads, the fertile fields of San Miguel were as good as mines themselves. All provisions and supplies were high, and farm products were in proportion, hay selling as high as \$60.00 a ton, with labor less to the ton than the charges for haulage and treatment of a ton of ore.

Telluride is a beautiful little city today, inhabited by prosperous merchants, bonanza kings, and that ever prodigal element, the American miner. The Telluride Jour-

if it is put through, the tedium of the trip will be greatly reduced and hundreds of people will annually visit the ruins who would otherwise regard the exertion and fatigue too great for the reward. Ultimately a railroad may be built to the ruins. A spur from the Rio Grande Southern would cost but little, as railroad expense is counted, and the travel would pay for the enterprise in a comparatively few years. If the ruins were situated near Colorado Springs, or any other great tourist center, the first year's traffic would pay for the road.

Montezuma county was incorporated in 1887; but the founding of the original settlements antedated that act by several years. The earliest of these, the settlement on the big bend of the Dolores, was founded in 1879. Locally the town was known as Big Bend, and, more remotely, as "over on the Dolores." The present title of Dolores" does not appear to have been officially recognized



CANYON SCENES, NEAR OURAY.

nal, a newsy daily paper, published by Charles Painter, is no small factor in the town's progress, and a faithful champion of the entire San Juan.

### MONTEZUMA COUNTY.

In turning to Montezuma county, what could be more natural than first to speak of the cliff dwellings under the sombre brow of Mesa Verde? These ancient ruins, crumbled with age, have been a subject of endless speculation and numberless theories, both by scientists and the laity. Thousands of chambers containing mummies and their erstwhile implements and utensils, are all the data left upon which to found calculation; yet volumes could be written on the tales they tell. These cliff dwellings, commonly known as the Mancos ruins, are reached either from Mancos or Cortez. They are about twenty miles from the railroad, via the Mancos trail, and that is the route usually taken. A wagon road has been projected recently, and,

or in use until after the completion of the railroad through this section, in 1892. Owing to the topography of the country and the unimportance of the town of Big Bend, the survey passed about two miles from that point, and the following year the townspeople abandoned the old townsite and established a new location on the present site of Dolores. The enterprise thus manifested is characteristic of the people, and has made Dolores one of the most valuable freight points on the Rio Grande Southern. The town is beautifully situated, lying in a narrow valley, almost a canon, through which courses the limpid Dolores river. The three principal enterprises of the town are the mercantile establishment of J. J. Harris & Co.; the Southern Hotel, conducted by J. D. McGrew, and the roller mills. Dolores is now the dinner station on the Rio Grande Southern, and Mr. McGrew has made it the best eating point on the road. This is also the point from which the stage runs to Cortez.

Mancos was laid out less than two years after Big



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

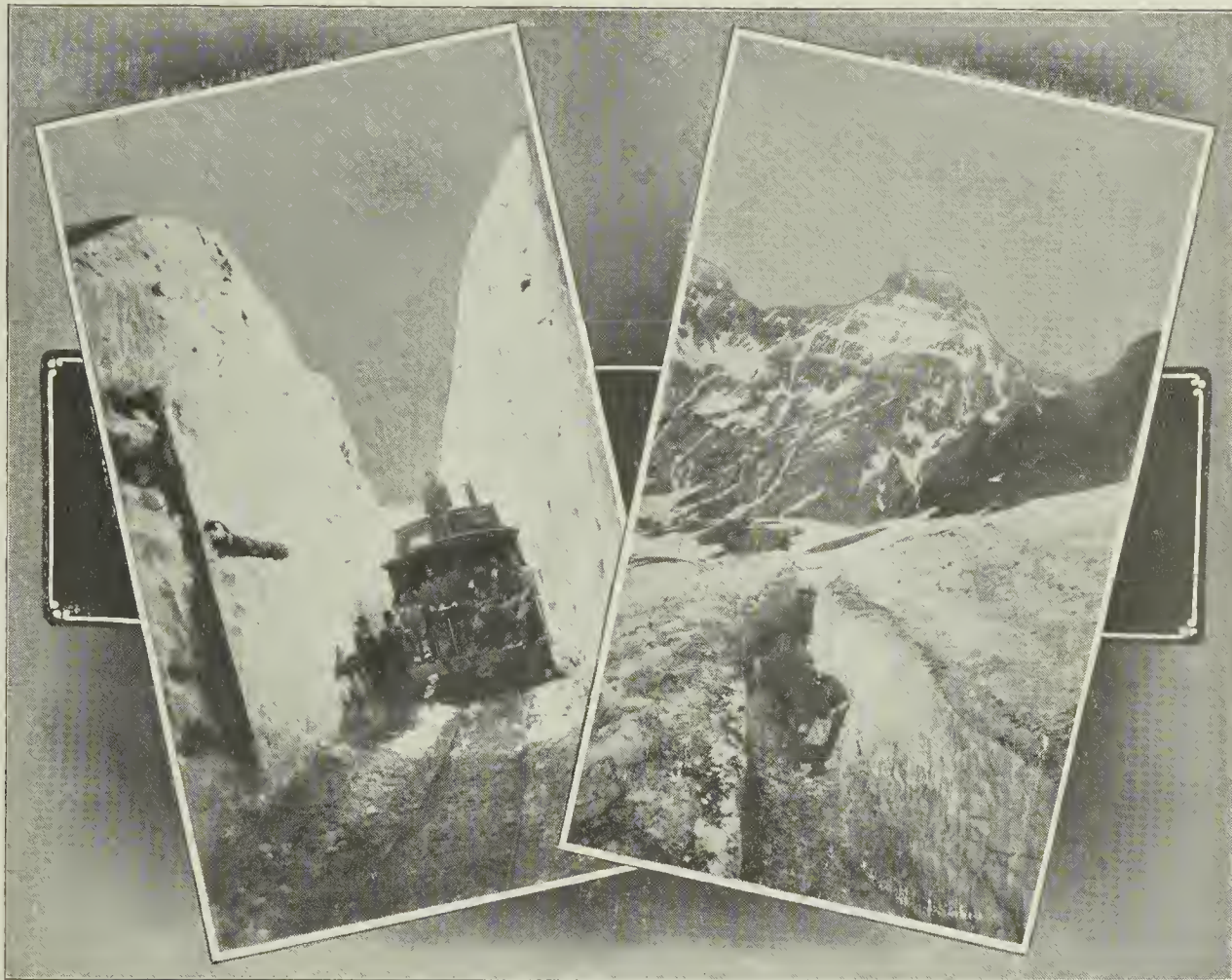
Bend was founded, and the pioneer merchant "over on the Dolores," George Bauer, was likewise the first man to bring a stock of merchandise into Mancos. Mr. Bauer subsequently sold his Big Bend business to Mr. Harris, above mentioned, and has since been very intimately identified with the immediate vicinity of Mancos, where he owns extensive mercantile and banking interests. The census reports give Dolores and Mancos populations, respectively, of 108 and 383, but, if the citizens of these places may be cited as authorities, the census solicitors overlooked a considerable number in each instance. Mancos has two hotels, the Mancos and Lemmon, both excellent hostelryes, conducted by G. S. Field. There are extensive lumber interests in and about Mancos.

Cortez was platted in 1889, and was made the county seat the following year. It is about of equal population with Dolores, and is fourteen miles by stage from that point.

The industries of Montezuma county are principally grazing, agriculture, lumbering and mining. The ranges are wide and rich, the soil and climate are fertile and temperate, the timber heavy and plentiful and the mountains rich in mineral. Thousands of cattle and sheep are fed by wild grasses, hundreds of farmers reap bountiful harvests from their irrigated lands, hundreds of men are employed in the logging camps and mills, and hundreds of miners are employed in the development of the county's mineral resources. Like her sister counties, Montezuma is in her infancy, and as they grow and prosper in equal measure will she develop.

### ARCHULETA COUNTY.

Archuleta county was organized in 1883, and received its name from the Archuleta family, which was one of



IT SNOWS IN THE SAN JUAN SOMETIMES.

Notwithstanding its comparatively small population, it is the center in this respect of the county. The Montezuma valley is dotted with farms and ranches, and as, in the days of Rome, all roads lead to Cortez. The agricultural lands about here are prolific of all products of the soil suited to this climate, and there is one small strip about twelve miles from Cortez, known as McElmo canon, where the finest fruits in the southwest are raised—at least if premium awards, wherever they have been exhibited, are a proof of relative merit. The entire valley is in a most prosperous condition, and the general prosperity is reflected in the excellent trade local merchants enjoy. The first residents of Cortez were E. S. Turner, J. W. Hanna, R. E. Scott, Maj. E. S. Cooper, B. J. Byrne and E. R. Lamb, and the first county officers were William Snyder, clerk and recorder; Francis Payson, treasurer; Pearly Wasson, sheriff; G. W. Morton, judge, and Theo. Wattles, assessor. The county commissioners were W. S. Ordway, W. S. Routt and George Bauer.

the first families that settled in the county. Pagosa Springs is the oldest town and the county seat. The mineral springs at this place have become famous for their curative powers, and Pagosa Springs has been called the Carlsbad of America. The springs were first owned by John Howard, afterwards a notorious outlaw and desperado, who met his quietus in a drunken brawl. From Howard the springs passed to Maj. Foote, by whom they were vastly improved. Pagosa Springs is the best known resort in Southern Colorado today, and draws its visitors not only from the San Juan, but from all over the state as well. Not unlike other localities where Nature has done queer things, Pagosa is redolent of superstition and Indian tradition, all of which partakes of the poetic in a remarkable degree.

John Ufford went from Silverton to Archuleta county in 1879. Wm. Bowen and Walker were also among the early settlers, the latter having been very closely identified with the growth of the county. There were others



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

who contributed to the development of Archuleta's resources, but a dearth of space denies them mention.

Archuleta is another of the heavily timbered counties of the San Juan, and the lumbering industry is naturally very prominent. Grazing and agriculture are of equal importance, however, and will be the chief industries when the pine forests are gone. The topography of the country is such that the lands are easily irrigated, and there is an abundance of water. But what promises more than everything else to bring Archuleta county to the attention of capital is the oil industry. No section of Colorado pre-

### MINERAL COUNTY.

The latest of the counties organized within the limits of the San Juan is Mineral, which was separated from Rio Grande, Hinsdale and Saguache, in 1893. Wagon Wheel Gap, famous for its natural beauty, the medicinal properties of its springs, and the variety and plenty of its game, was the first section in Mineral county to attract attention. The first owners of these celebrated springs were George Ingersoll, Andy Richardson and Billy Quinn, who sold them for a pittance.



TYPES OF THE UTE INDIAN—HIS FAMILY AND HIS HOME.

sents more favorable indications for oil than are found in this locality, and many of the wealthiest mining men and strongest capitalists in the state are operating in the Pagosa oil district. Large plants have been erected at different points and sinking is being done. Geologists and oil experts speak with the utmost confidence with reference to the new oil district, and unless all signs fail the recent strike and stampede will be followed by a series of gushers and pumping wells.

Later, the great mining camp of Creede claimed great attention. This district had been traversed for years without anyone so much as suspecting that its silent rocks held a secret wealth, and it was not until after '90 that any mines worthy the name were discovered. The first location was the Bachelor, which was followed by the Amethyst and Holy Moses, staked by Creede, after whom the camp was named, in 1891. When Creede applied for a patent on the Holy Moses, the government authorities



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

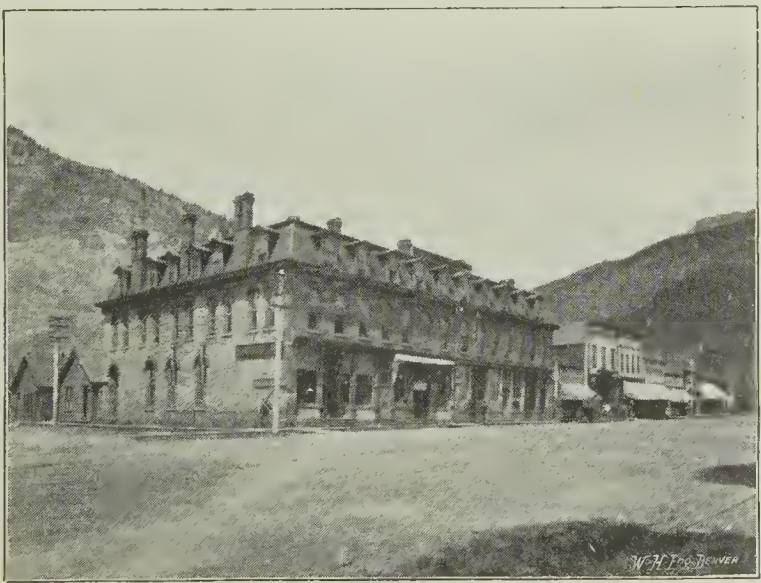
refused to issue a patent on a property so outlandishly named, and the locator compromised by calling his claim the Moses, on which patent was issued. Creede's discoveries made him a millionaire, and the mining town of his name a city, within incredibly short time. This camp was another to suffer severely from the panic, but, with the elasticity of a mining town, Creede "looked up" in the face of adversity, and is today one of the thriving mining camps of the San Juan. The Last Chance is another Creede property that proved a sufficient opportunity to its owners, and there are many such, though differently named.

### SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

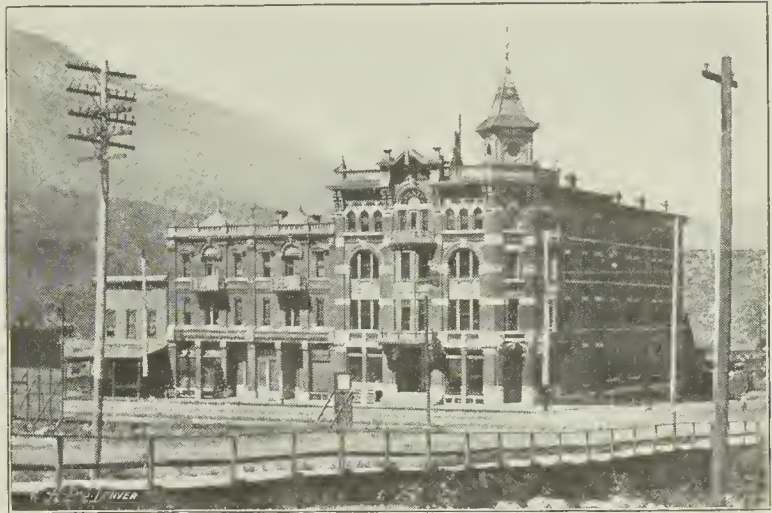
And now we come to San Juan county, New Mexico—that wonderful region, watered by the San Juan, Animas and La Plata rivers. Though not in Colorado, this county is indubitably a portion of the great San Juan, and, with interests so different from those of the counties previously mentioned, is so manifestly of reciprocal interest with them that no future development is like to divorce it.

This great county, 5,625 square miles in area, is about the size of the state of Connecticut, and has over 175,000 acres of fertile land available for irrigation. The valleys of the three rivers above mentioned are lined with productive farms and orchards extending miles and miles along the bottoms and low mesas, well-kept fields, fine stock and attractive dwellings presenting visible evidence of prosperity on every side. The fruits of this region now rival in fame the celebrated products of California, and in flavor and form are the peer of anything of their class in the markets of the world.

The county is situated in the extreme northwestern section of New Mexico, and promises to become the garden spot not only of the territory, but of the entire southwest. At the famous four corners, of which San Juan county is one, the states of Colorado and Utah and the territories of New Mexico and Arizona diverge at right angles, so that a person may stand at one time in the two states and two territories. All four of these great commonwealths offer an inviting market to the bountiful products of orchard and field, and the best evidence of the excellence of Farmington fruits, as the fruits of San Juan county, New Mexico, are generally known, is to be found in the fact that they can be shipped through other fruit sections and command higher prices at their destination than any others on the market.



GRAND HOTEL, SILVERTON.



STRATER HOTEL, DURANGO.

That Farmington fruits have overcome all obstacles of transportation and successfully competed with the fruits of sections more favorably located, is most promising for the future of this now remote section. At present the two outlets are by wagon road, sixty miles to the Denver & Rio Grande and the Rio Grande Southern railroads, at Durango, and a hundred and twenty miles to the Santa Fe, at Thoreau. The haul is over roads very poor in places, and when the railroad is finally reached rehandling is necessary to shipment; and, if a shipment is consigned via Durango, still another transfer from narrow to standard gauge cars is necessary to convey the fruits to the eastern market.

But, if signs do not fail, the Farmington district will not long suffer the handicap of poor transportation facilities, for it is at last practically assured that within a few years a standard gauge railroad with termini at Durango and Clifton, Arizona, will open up this resourceful country and put it on an equal footing with other localities that have hitherto had an important advantage over the fertile expanses of San Juan county. This road, to be known as the Colorado & Gulf, is being energetically promoted by Charles McConnell, of Durango, who has raised large sums for preliminary surveys, and an engineering corps has already staked the proposed route for a considerable distance.

What the success of this railroad enterprise will mean for Durango and Clifton, as well as for the intervening country, can hardly be overestimated. As for the Smelter City, it will make it the hub of a territory much wider than and equally as rich as has heretofore looked to Durango as a fountain head of commerce, and, in all probability, will bring manufactories that will avail themselves of the natural advantages and extended field of operation and prosper accordingly. For Clifton, it will insure cheap fuel, and will contribute immeasurably to the great mining industry on which the prosperity of the camp is founded. It will settle up the rich empire between these two places, and will open up an outlet for all its products of every nature.

The principal town, though not the county seat, is Farmington. This point is geographically located to become a considerable municipality with the growth of the county. It is immediately below the confluence of the San Juan and Animas rivers, and just above the point where the La Plata empties into the San Juan. This makes it the apex of the three great agricultural valleys. There are at present only between two and three hundred inhabitants in the town proper, but there are at least as many more people in the immediate vicinity who look to



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN



UTE MAIDEN.

Farmington as their postoffice. There is a daily mail and stage service, except Sundays, the line being run and kept up by C. M. Elliott, who also owns a valuable ranch near Farmington. The Hydes have a fruit evaporator and will soon have a flouring mill, besides their mercantile and banking interests at this point, and the farmers and fruit-growers are thereby afforded a home market for their products. The town was recently incorporated, and, in the near future, unless present plans miscarry, will have an electric light plant, for which Durango parties have already requested a franchise. A sewer system is likely to follow closely on the water system just completed, and other municipal improvements will be in order as rapidly as the council is enable to act. The townsite is regularly laid out, and the buildings, mostly brick, are substantial and modern. The town has churches and schools of a high order, has an enterprising weekly press, represented by the Hustler and Times, and a progressive people.

Aztec, Fruitland and Largo are the next most important towns, and La Plata, Flora Vista, Olio, Jewett, Cedar Hill and Bloommfield are regularly established postoffices. Aztec is the county seat, and all the above points are in the midst of thriving communities, merchants and ranchers sharing alike the general prosperity. Near Aztec are quite extensive ruins, and it is from the race supposed by many to have inhabited these crumbled dwellings that the town received its name.

From the earliest days stockraising has been an important industry throughout this section, and there are probably now in the neighborhood of 50,000 sheep and 6,000 head of cattle on these fertile ranges. The markets of the southwest draw their supply of mutton and beef from this section, and hundreds of tons of wool are annually sold to Durango buyers.

Of great importance, too, are the vast coal deposits known to exist throughout the county. Collieries are not operated to any considerable extent as yet, and coal mining may be regarded as one of the industries held in reserve for the future. As in so many of the great coal districts, there are here indications of oil, and many strong companies have been organized to bore wells in different localities.

But, after all, agriculture, fruitculture and horticulture are sufficient to make a great country of San Juan county, and with development, if no other resource should appear, the great Farmington district would still be one of the richest in the southwest. There are at present over two hundred miles of irrigating canals, and others in course of construction that will water an additional 75,000 acres. And there will be more.

Before concluding, it is important that some statement concerning the climate of this great country should be made. The invalid does not live who has not heard of California's boasted climate; but where is there a sufferer who has heard that there is a balm in the dry and equable climate of San Juan county, New Mexico? Locally, in the San Juan country, it has been known for years; but here the knowledge has halted. Yet, were the like of it to be found in famed California, the spot would be heralded to the world as the greatest natural sanitarium of the earth!

The people of Farmington district do not think much of this. They accept the vigorous health the climate instills and the better care for and improve their ranches and orchards. The locality is as yet too scantily populated. When a railroad enters the country there may be men of little taste for husbandry who will see and recognize the benefits to be derived from the balmy atmosphere of the section, and pause to advertise their discovery to the infirm, and to erect sanitariums for their care and treatment.

While no effort has been made to advertise the section as a health point up to the present time, many afflicted with consumption have come in the last stages of the dread disease and have completely recovered their health, and there is no apparent reason for it not proving equally beneficial to others seeking recuperation from the ravages of pulmonary tuberculosis.



SCENE ON JUNCTION CREEK, NEAR DURANGO.



THE GREAT SAN JUAN

# DURANGO

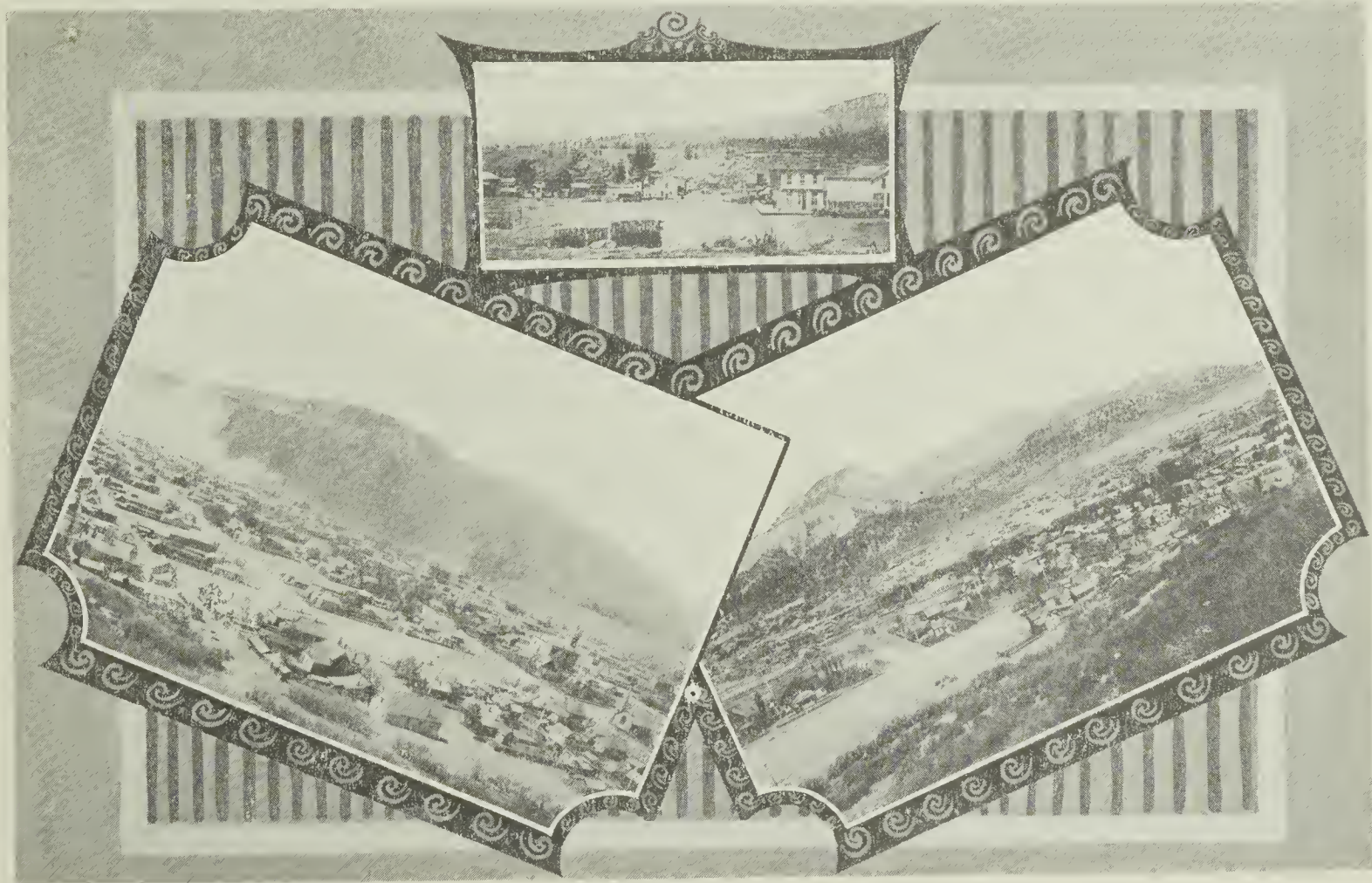
## ❧ The Smelter City ❧



Precedent to the upbuilding of populous communities are their resources; and as these are developed cities have their birth and after growth. Compared to eastern cities, and, indeed, to many in the west, Durango is a village; but, in the San Juan of Colorado, her 3,317 inhabitants with which she is credited by last year's census entitles her to a metropolitan rank in the southwestern portion of the state.

Twenty-one years ago the townsite of Durango was platted. The same year, and somewhat prior to the incep-

ing the payroll, tonnage, etc.; but the dense volumes of smoke issuing from five lofty stacks daily reveal something of the plant's magnitude and operations even the secrecy of the office cannot obscure. Nor do the trains of box cars, placarded with the names of the mines from which their mineral burden has come, divulge less. The fact is, the entire output of scores of bonanza mines is shipped direct to Durango for treatment, and all the benefits that are to be derived from this great industry accrue to the Smelter City.



CITY OF DURANGO.

THE TOWN TWENTY YEARS AGO.

NORTH DURANGO.

tion of the town, the old New York smelter was removed from Silverton to its present site, and Durango has since been an important smelting point: whence its soubriquet, the "Smelter City." This industry, as it gave birth to the town, would have afforded sufficient support for a small community, and, since the development of other resources and industries which have contributed to Durango's greater growth, remains an important element in the city's prosperity.

Owing to either the disinclination of the big smelter trust, which has absorbed the local smelter, to give information to the press, with which it is justly unpopular, or to the curtailed authority of its resident representative, it has been impossible to secure statistical data concern-

Hardly second in importance to the smelter is the great coal industry, which determined the owners of the New York smelter to remove their plant to this point. From the preceding sentence it appears that the presence of extensive coal deposits in the vicinity of Durango was known prior to the organization of the town. The old San Juan coal mine, now defunct, was operated years before Durango was laid out, and it was near this property that the smelter was erected. The trestlework and tipples of this mine have never been torn down, and present a bizarre spectacle, dismantled by time and decay. But the coal taken from the San Juan was as a scuttle-full to the bunkers of a seaport. The whole country about Durango seems pregnant with coal, and there are at least half a dozen collieries produc-



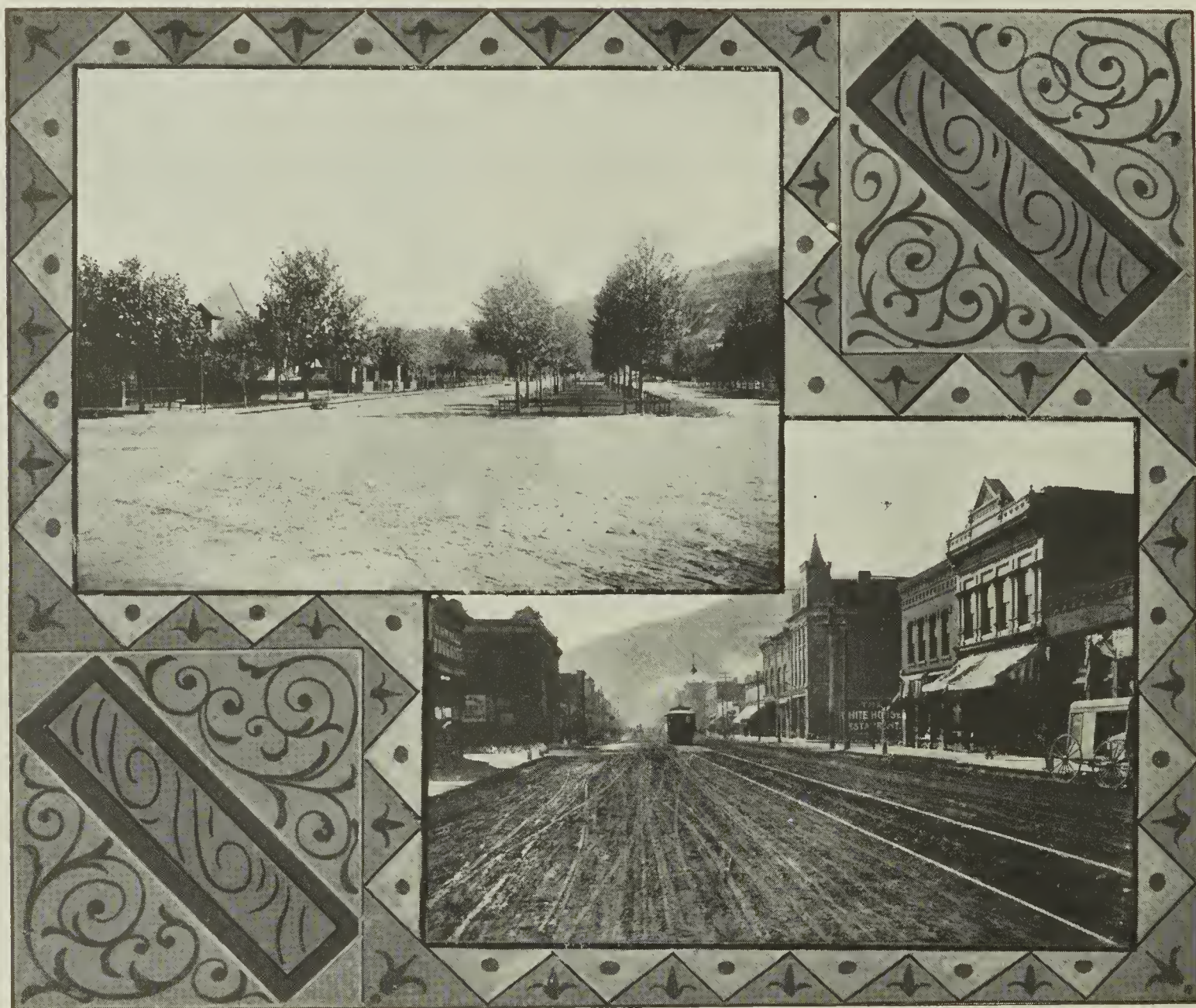
## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

ing their hundreds of tons a day; and, when its new electrical equipment is in, there will be one mine (that of the Boston Coal & Fuel Company) which will have a capacity for mining 2,000 tons daily, and coal enough to maintain that output for a century. Almost as important as the inexhaustible supply is the quality or grade. The coal is a very hard bituminous, suitable for coke, steam and domestic uses, and marketable anywhere within a radius of five hundred miles.

Lumbering is another industry that has contributed liberally to the growth of Durango. From the time that the first sawmill was brought into the country the manufacture of lumber has been carried on, and the extensive

to make this city an excellent market, but, as well, to add to its commercial supremacy, for it is the trade center of a large and prosperous country population; and, as the country becomes more densely settled, as it inevitably will, Durango will be benefitted in like measure. There are hundreds of fine ranches under cultivation in the valley of the Animas, and thousands of cattle and sheep on the rich ranges within a short distance.

Nature ordained that Durango should be a railroad as well as a commercial center. The topography of the country is such that the Smelter City is a natural radiating point. The Denver & Rio Grande reached Durango in 1881 and was completed to Silverton the following year. A few



DURANGO RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS THOROUGHFARES.

THE BOULEVARD.

MAIN STREET.

pine forests of this section promise a certain reward for investment and enterprise for years to come. The timber is an excellent quality of yellow pine, and is suitable for almost all building uses. There is one mill located within the city limits of Durango, and others within a few miles that produce hundreds of thousands of feet of lumber daily in the aggregate. Their product is shipped all over the state and beyond its borders; but it is in giving cheap lumber to the homebuilder that it has been of inestimable benefit to Durango.

Again, Durango is favored in the rich agricultural section tributary to the city. Farm, orchard and garden products thrive in this fertile region, and the effect is not only

years later the Rio Grande Southern connected Durango with the terminus of the Denver & Rio Grande at Ridgway, and now there is an excellent prospect of a standard-gauge road being built from Durango to Clifton, Arizona. The Rio Grande system may ultimately change its southern lines to standard gauge; but even now, with the daily trains and Pullman service, there is little cause for dissatisfaction, and Durango is anything but isolated. The freight and passenger traffic of this part of the system is heavy, and the regularity of the trains is seldom affected by snow blockades or accidents.

Durango lies in a narrow valley. The main business thoroughfare extends a mile or more, and, in the mercan-



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

tile section, is almost level. It is lined for blocks with substantial brick and stone buildings, and arc lights at intervals of one block. The stores and shops, many of them handsomely appointed, present a metropolitan aspect. The three banks, two of which occupy their own handsome buildings, give unmistakable evidence that there is a large business transacted in the city. There is an excellent hostelry, the Strater, where visitors to the city receive really first-class accommodations; there are large mercantile emporiums, where strangers will find stocks as thoroughly up-to-the-hour as in Denver or any other city in the west; there are beautiful drives and engaging amusements for all.

Durango has been called the best built city of its size

sure is a great safeguard against conflagrations, and in addition to having a well equipped fire department, the city has employed men of great efficiency.

One notable statistical item that is of particular importance, as showing that Durango is a city of homes, and not altogether rented houses, is the fact that, while the past year has witnessed fewer foreclosures and tax sales than any other year in the history of the city, it has also been a year of great activity in real estate transfers. These, large in the aggregate, have been small individually, evidencing the fact that the wage-earner and small salaried element have been acquiring property interests. The general prosperity is evident, too, in the fact that taxes on



DURANGO PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

COURT HOUSE.

HIGH SCHOOL.

MERCY HOSPITAL.

CITY HALL.

in the west. But a few blocks removed from the business section, already mentioned as substantially built, are avenues of handsome residences and artistic cottages. The public buildings are stately edifices, and the architecture of the city is modern throughout. The streets are admirably kept, and the Boulevard, which is parked its entire length, is one of the handsomest thoroughfares in the west.

Durango has an unsurpassed water and sewer system, and, as a guerdon for its sanitary improvements, its people enjoy the greatest measure of health. This is partially due to the moderate climate, the extremes of temperature being very rare; but, in the best climate, disease becomes rampant without proper sanitation. The high water pres-

surely have been collected more closely than ever before, there having been less than four per cent of delinquency.

It is interesting, as indicative of the character of our citizens, that the office of sheriff, the emoluments of which are based on fees alone, is so unremunerative that aspirants for the office are few and inactive. There have been but two murders in the county in as many years, and burglaries and other heinous crimes have hardly been registered on the calendar in the same period. This will be a revelation to eastern readers, who have been taught to believe the west a lawless country, and it is a record of which any locality might well be proud.

One of America's institutions is her public school sys-



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

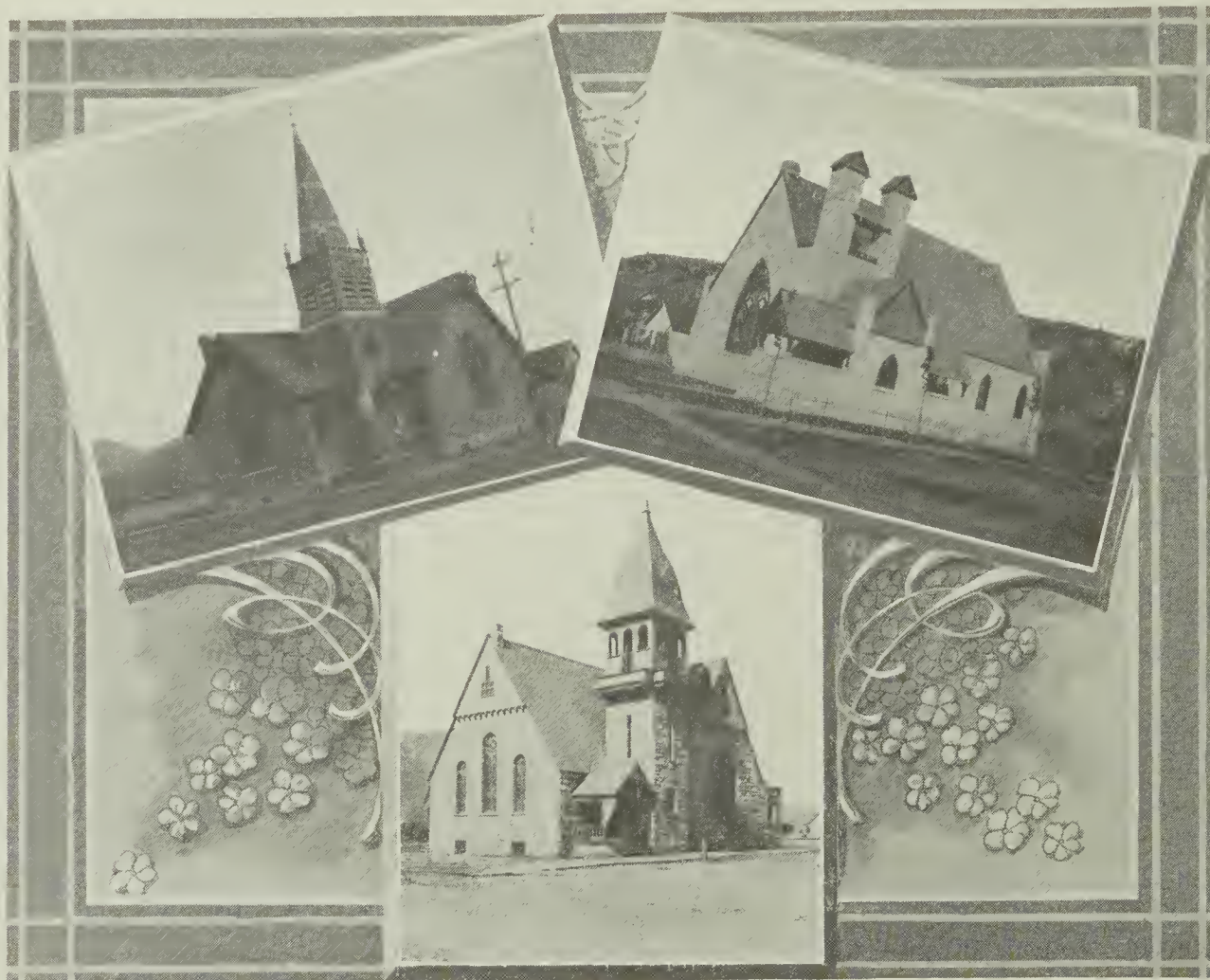
tem, and it is an element of greatness in which Durango shares to a remarkable degree. The principal of the Durango High school, who devoted years to teaching in the public schools of New England, declares that the local schools are superior in every essential respect to those of the east. Certainly our educational facilities are not surpassed in Colorado, so far as public instruction is concerned, and we are prone to believe that there are indeed few localities that afford greater advantages for children's schooling.

The religious and moral atmosphere of Durango betokens culture and refinement in the homes of the Smelter City. The churches, representing nearly every denomination and sect, are dignified and graceful edifices. The clergy are men of learning and piety, eminently worthy to occupy the pulpits of the city, eloquent in expounding the tenets of religion, zealous in exemplary living. The congregations are composed of the reputable of all classes, de-

center of a large reading public. The Durango Democrat (David F. Day, editor) is, as the name implies, the organ of the democracy, and is published every morning, except Mondays. The Herald (owned by Raymond Bros.), which appears every afternoon but Sundays, is the Republican oracle. Besides these, the city is the home of two weeklies—the Wage Earner and Durango Republican, the latter a journal established during the recent county campaign.

The editorial staffs of the four papers, while at some variance politically and animated by a more or less keen rivalry, are one in their purpose as respects the advancement of Durango's material interests. They are aggressively enterprising in promoting enterprises conceived in the city's weal.

The equipment of the mechanical departments of the two dailies is an item worthy of remark, each having a modern plant, comprising the Mergenthaler Linotype, cylinder presses, etc. This work, produced in the press and



A GROUP OF DURANGO CHURCHES.

vout in worship, upright in daily relations.

There is no enterprise or establishment that is more distinctly associated with the progress and advancement of a community than the press, and there is certainly not a town in the state of Colorado that has more representative newspapers than Durango. In point of space the papers of the Smelter City cannot, of course, be compared to the great dailies of Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, but, for its population, Durango's two dailies are as creditable as any published in Colorado. They print 28 columns each six days in every week, and publish the morning and afternoon reports of the Associated Press, giving to their readers a concise statement of the world's news the day it happens, and their local columns are replete with items of more immediate interest. They carry an abundance of home and foreign advertising, reflecting their value as a media, and their large subscription lists afford substantial evidence of the fact that Durango is the

composinig rooms of The Durango Democrat, is a fit sample of the work turned out by that paper's job rooms.

In concluding this brief commentary on Durango, we desire to emphasize the fact that the city is not a boom town. The city never has experienced a boom and never will, so far as may be seen into the future. Since the town was platted, in 1881, its growth has been rapid or gradual, according to the comparison; but one thing is positive, and that is that it has been remarkably even. Like all other places, Durango has had periods of great prosperity and of comparative depression; but her progress has been steady through either stage. It is this upon which the future of the Smelter City is based. Citizens of Durango do not anticipate or court a period of wild speculation: they are energetic, but conservative, people who look forward with satisfaction to a continual healthy growth, and it is people of this class that they would have join them in citizenship.





This is intended for people who want to know.  
If you don't want to know, don't read.

Were Solomon alive, he would observe that the greatest fortunes have been made in real estate; he would admonish men of means, large or small, to invest in realty. Were he to name a place for investment, he would echo Horace Greeley's advice to young men—"Go West!"

Mercantile, manufacturing and professional pursuits yield livelihood, now and then competency, seldom opulence; speculation is a game of chance, in which the ratio of success to failure is as one to a thousand.

Real estate investments alone combine elements of conservatism and speculation. There are two courses, equally safe. The investor may buy, or he may loan. In either case, locality and agent are to be determined.

The east and middle west are established upon a basis of gradual growth; the west is new, undeveloped. Tens of thousands annually abandon the overcrowded east to reap the opportunities the west extends. Millions of dollars annually come from the money centers of the east and of Europe to develop our marvelous natural resources. Our cities are growing in population, commerce and manufacture. Our fertile and productive valleys are being settled. The overflow of eastern cities, the drought plague of the middle west, the low interest rates of the east and of Europe—these are building the west.

But the west is an empire. Where is the place for investment? There are many; but one will suffice for you, reader. No place in Colorado has greater advantages than Durango. Gibraltar is not more sound. Not only has it the resources to maintain its prestige, but resources which render its future supremacy and growth inevitable, positive.

It is to the interest of investors and home-seekers to know these facts. It is to their interest to receive their information from a reliable source. If they recognize and

avail themselves of the advantages Durango possesses over other localities, it is to their interest to entrust their investments to an agency in which conservatism, ability and integrity dominate the management,—one that is substantial, reputable, responsible.

The Inter-State Investment Company occupies the first rank in Durango. The company transacts a general real estate and insurance business. Business of non-residents is the company's specialty. Its connections afford clients the safest and most productive securities in Colorado. The company absolutely guarantees its representations. No company can do more. The future is inscrutable. But the years of experience the management has had in western investments, the conservative judgment with which the interests of clients is guarded, and the scrutiny with which every phase of a situation is regarded, have made this company exceptionally successful in its relations with its resident and non-resident patrons. Immense sums of money are placed through its agency, and it is entrusted with the stewardship of vast interests. No one is neglected or held of secondary importance. The interests of the home-seeker, whether in quest of business property or of agricultural lands, are given able attention. The company's lists record all classes of salable realty, of whatever description, in the San Juan.

Frank Eldredge, president and manager of the Inter-State Investment Co., has resided in Colorado for twenty-five years, and, through his extensive acquaintance and business connections, is in a position to give clients effective service and important and accurate information obtainable through no other sources.

Correspondence will receive courteous and careful consideration. Write today.

THE INTER-STATE INVESTMENT CO.,  
Durango, Colo.

## THE DURANGO PRESSED BRICK COMPANY

Yards and Clay Banks Near Durango, Colorado

The Durango Pressed Brick Company, for a small interior plant, is one of the finest and best equipped in the State of Colorado. There is probably no plant so well placed for economical manufacture. Their clay banks are extensive and of the finest quality, and they own the only bodies of high class brick material yet discovered in the

San Juan section. The plant has one Boyd press, with a capacity of 20,000 per day, and three large rectangular kilns. During the past season they have burned nearly two million brick, which have the reputation of being the finest pressed brick made in Colorado. They have also opened a vein of fine fire clay, and during this season



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN.

have been conducting a line of experiments, which have resulted very favorably. They have made several burns of small amounts, and are now putting through a large quantity for market. As fire brick for the San Juan section have always been brought from the outside at a very heavy expense, this will be a particularly gratifying addition to the resources of the section, and the company anticipates, on account of superior quality, reaching most distant markets with their manufacture of fire brick.

In dry pressed brick this company exclusively sup-

plies Durango and the entire San Juan, the trade of which they command at equitable prices. The San Juan territory does not, of course, demand a large number of brick as yet, and it is impossible to ship brick a great distance, by reason of heavy freights. While this gives them a monopoly, yet the company have never attempted to take advantage of it in their prices, and therefore command the good-will of the entire section, from that standpoint as well as from the standpoint of excellence of manufacture and quality of clay used.

## COLORADO STATE BANK

A Commercial and Savings Bank

The Colorado State Bank is one of the leading financial institutions of the San Juan. The bank was organized in 1887, as a savings and commercial depository, and a general business is transacted in both departments.

As a commercial institution, the Colorado State Bank receives deposit accounts from individuals, firms, corpora-

saving schemes promoted solely in the interest of directors, who reap through the inability of members to comply with subscribed conditions, the savings bank imposes no conditions requiring stipulated regular deposits, in default of which a part or all that has been paid in is lost. The patron of the savings bank deposits when and what he

chooses, and receives what his money earns, without any fines and taxes, and without the harassing fear that his savings may be lost through his inability to meet an assessment or premium. For the flimsy argument that the premium or assessment methods make saving compulsory, the fact that a safe accumulation is an incentive to save more is sufficient answer. Another feature of the bank's superiority is the fact that, while deposits are made with the intention of being left for accumulations to accrue, and while they are seldom disturbed, the depositor's funds are not tied up so that he cannot realize in times of emer-



COLORADO STATE BANK BUILDING.

tions and banks, subject to check; issues interest-bearing time certificates; makes advances to correspondents and patrons on available collateral; discounts and receives as security for loans approved business paper; negotiates mortgage loans upon income property; makes collections throughout the United States and other countries upon favorable terms; handles escrows; reports on mines and investments; rents safety deposit boxes; pays taxes and attends to property interests for non-residents; carefully handles business of estates; transfers funds by cable, telegraph or mail to all parts of the world; draws bank money orders on Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Italy and all foreign countries and the United States; purchases exchange at ruling market rates, etc., etc.

As a savings institution, the bank receives deposits for investment, accounts drawing quarterly compound interest. The savings bank has come to be recognized as a factor of civilization. Unlike many associations and

agency. There is no time when a depositor may not withdraw his account, receiving not only the entire principal but accrued interest as well. There are 1,000 savings banks in the United States, with 5,000,000 depositors and \$2,000,000,000.00 of deposits. Outside of the United States there are 40,000,000 depositors in savings banks, carrying \$5,000,000,000.00 of savings. The Colorado State Bank is patterned after the best of these.

The Colorado State Bank has been in business fourteen years in Durango. The officers and directors are B. N. Freeman, President; W. C. Chapman, Vice-President; F. H. Reinhold, Assistant Cashier; C. E. Hampton, F. Eldredge and D. L. Sheets—all well known in local business and financial circles. Durango is a city of business men and wage earners, and a large percentage of them manifest their estimation for the ability, integrity and resources of the gentlemen above named by giving their patronage to the Colorado State Bank.



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

## FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Oldest Established Bank in Durango

If, as it is claimed, the stability and character of a community and its industries may be best judged by the standing of its banks, people of Durango have every cause for congratulation; for, while there are banking establishments in Colorado having larger capitalization, there are few with greater resources, compared to liabilities, and none that is held in more universal confidence by patrons and the general public than the First National of Durango.

For more than twenty years the First National Bank has been the recognized financial power of La Plata county, and there has not been a time during that period when its policy has not been in accord with the upbuilding of the county and the fostering of its industries and enterprises. The management of the bank, while it has been so conservative as to establish a reputation for stability in financial circles throughout the state, has, at the same time, been liberal and progressive to a degree entitling the institution to recognition among the foremost factors in the development of the industrial and commercial interests of this section.

The business of the First National is confined to recognized legitimate fields of banking. Advantageous connections are maintained with the best banks of all the states, affording exceptional facilities for transacting business with promptness and thoroughness. Especially does this apply to making collections and handling commercial paper. Exchange is bought and sold on all the principal cities of Europe and America. Money is transmitted by telegraph to any and every point of importance in the United States, Canada and Mexico, and to all the principal cities of the commercial world. Acceptable commercial paper



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.

is discounted, and loans are made on reasonable terms.

The First National Bank was organized and incorporated in 1881 to succeed to the private bank of Daniels, Brown & Co. The officers are A. P. Camp, President; John L. McNeil, Vice-President; Wm. P. Vaile, Cashier; and A. W. Ayres, Assistant Cashier. The directors are A. P. Camp, John L. McNeil, Wm. P. Vaile, Chas. H. Toll and G. Barrett, comprising a personnel sufficient to establish the financial stability of any enterprise with which the names are connected. In accordance with the requirements of the comptroller of the currency, however, the bank issues regular statements, detailing its condition, which it mails to patrons and to everyone desiring information concerning it. The following figures are taken from the report of the First National Bank of Durango, as shown by last report to Comptroller, December 10.

### Resources.

Loans .....	\$303,043.21
Stocks, Securities, Etc., .....	43,503.96
U. S. Bonds .....	22,000.00
Real Estate, Furniture and Fix- tures .....	28,300.00
Other Real Estate and Mortgages Owned .....	6,400.00
Cash on hand and in Other Banks .....	288,310.96
	<hr/>
	\$691,558.13

### Liabilities.

Capital Stock .....	\$ 87,000.00
Surplus Fund and Profits .....	9,309.31
Circulation Outstanding .....	22,000.00
Deposits .....	573,248.82
	<hr/>

\$691,558.13



RESIDENCE OF A. P. CAMP



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

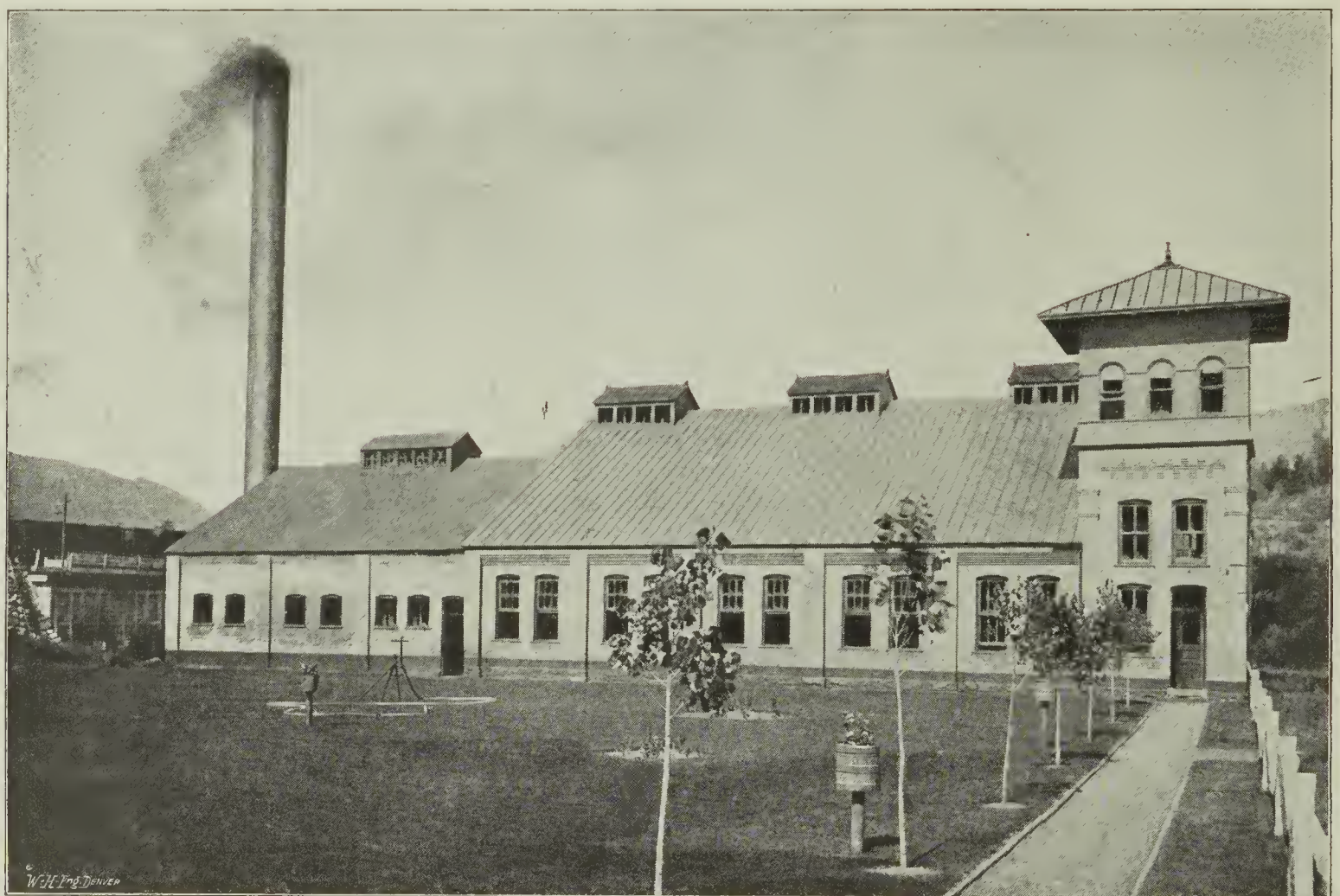
## THE DURANGO LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY

One of the Smelter City's Most Important Enterprises

America is the home of the greatest electricians of the world. Had we have achieved no other distinction, Franklin and Edison would have gained us a page in the world's history as enduring as the science with which their names are indissolubly connected; and it is fitting Americans should enjoy in the great measure they do the discoveries and inventions of their rarely gifted countrymen.

Measured by the facilities for lighting still obtaining in European cities and towns, Durango is favored to a degree that can scarcely be realized by us. We are prone to accept the conveniences derived through science as too much a matter of course, so rapidly are improvements assimilated and passed into custom; but there are many old-timers in Durango who remember when the flicker of campfire furnished the only artificial light on the Animas.

erators, 150HP. and 100HP., to furnish the power for the street railway system of Durango; two Westinghouse alternators, one with a capacity of 2,500 and the other of 2,000 incandescent 16-candle power lamps; two Thompson-Houston arc light machines, of 50-lamp capacity each; and two exciters. The company keeps a coal reserve of about 175 tons, and feeds the furnaces direct from cars weighed at boiler room entrance. The total number of pounds consumed every twenty-four hours is compared with electrical output registered by meters during the same time, thus giving a daily record of efficiency. A railroad spur connects coal bins with the mine. This plant is kept in constant operation, night and day, to furnish power and lights. The lighting capacity is 4,500 sixteen candle power incandescents and 100 arcs, and the power capacity is 250HP.,



POWER HOUSE OF THE DURANGO LIGHT AND POWER CO.

The Durango Light & Power Company was organized and incorporated only eight years ago, and, prior to that time there was neither gas nor electric lighting system in the Smelter City. A building was erected and a plant installed at the foot of Seventh street, and the company occupied that location the first two years. At the expiration of that time the venture had passed its experimental stage, and the company found it necessary to increase its facilities, and substantial improvements were made with a view to future growth.

The buildings at present occupied are fire-proof brick structures, the main building being 95x70 feet and the boiler room 48x45. The machinery consists of two Allis-Corliss engines, with a combined horse-power of 550, and a battery of four boilers, each of 150-horse-power; two gen-

being divided between the street railway system and the motors in use by private parties requiring electric power.

The officers of The Durango Light and Power Company are C. M. Williams, of Thurlow, Hutton & Williams, Colorado Springs, President; Arthur Ayres, assistant cashier of the First National Bank, of Durango, Secretary, and C. H. Peters, Superintendent. Mr. Peters is also superintendent of the Durango street railway system. He is a thoroughly skilled electrician, and citizens of Durango are not annoyed by irregularity of service, as is experienced in some cities of far greater population. He has been three years with the company, and, by rendering absolute satisfaction to the public, has co-operated with the business management, which is notably liberal, in making the company one of the few popular lighting corporations in Colorado.



THE GREAT SAN JUAN  
J. J. HARRIS AND COMPANY  
General Merchandise and Banking, Dolores, Colorado

The history of all new and undeveloped countries gathers about a few central figures, and the historian of Montezuma county will find Harris an ever-recurring name in his chronological data. Though not the first to pitch their tents within the limits of the county, the Harrises were among the early settlers, and they have been closely identified with the growth and prosperity of their adopted home.

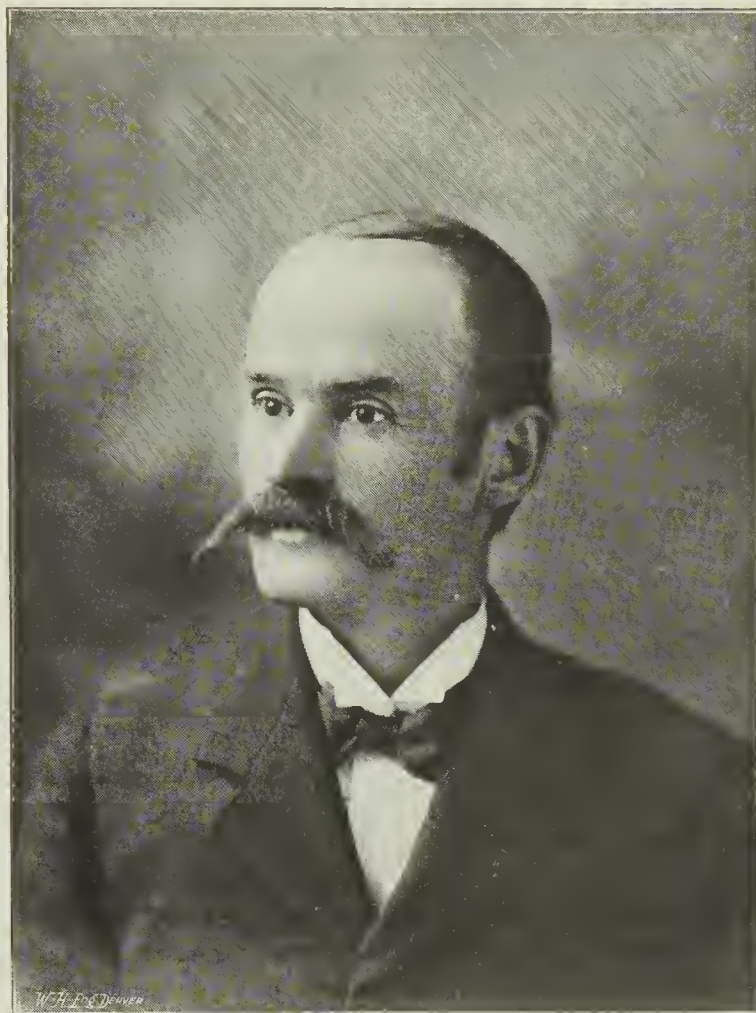
John J. and Andrew F. Harris are natives of the "Buckeye" state, having been born in Ohio. John came west with the construction corps of the Kansas & Pacific railroad, in 1868, reaching Denver in '70, and was in railroad employ in this state for a number of years thereafter. He was superintendent of the telegraph department of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad when Andrew came to Colorado, in '79, and the following year he resigned his position to engage in the forwarding and commission business with his brother.

During the spring of '80, the railroad reached Salida, and the Harris brothers together built the first house erected on the townsite. As the road was pushed ahead, the brothers established themselves at the steadily advancing terminus until it reached Gunnison, in 1882, when they sold out and took a tour of the northwest, dividing their time between recreation and business, their main object being to determine upon a location for the resumption of business. Finding no satisfactory openings, they returned to Colorado and later engaged in merchandising at Mancos. In 1886 they removed to the Montezuma valley, bringing their stock with them. A year later they purchased the stock and business of George Bauer, at Big Bend, on the Dolores, and combined the two stocks in one.

When, in the fall of 1892, the Rio Grande Southern railroad built through the valley, passing within two miles of the pioneer settlement of Big Bend, the merchants and townspeople deserted the old townsite and built the present town of Dolores on the railroad. J. J. Harris & Company were among the first to build on the new townsite, and by June, 1893, they had completed their fine brick store, 25x100 feet in dimension, on the principal business corner, and had transferred their immense stock. Besides their store, they built a commodious warehouse, 25x150 feet, on the tracks of the Rio Grande Southern. Contemporaneously with opening the new store the firm established a bank, in the rear of the salesroom, and the mercantile and banking business owned by J. J. Harris & Company is today second in volume and importance to none in Montezuma county.

The general merchandise stock carried by J. J. Harris & Company embraces practically everything in demand in this section in groceries, dry goods, clothing, hardware, farm implements, vehicles, etc., and the firm does an extensive business with ranchers, stockmen and millmen throughout the county and as far west as Monticello, Utah. Nearly everything is bought in car lots, and many merchants of the interior draw their supplies from this great mercantile establishment. The bank transacts a general banking business, and has for patrons the prominent men, firms and corporations of the valley. The management has pursued a policy at once liberal and conservative, and the county owes much of its later development to the presence of a financial institution.

The Harris brothers are widely and favorably known throughout southwestern Colorado, and are universally held in high esteem both as able business men and as public-spirited citizens of Dolores. Hon. John J. Harris served his district four years in the Colorado state senate chamber, having been elected by an overwhelming majority over two opposing candidates, in 1896. His official record is one of pride to his constituents and of satisfaction to all, regardless of party affiliations, demonstrating, as has been done times without number, that the plain, unassuming business man is infinitely better suited for official responsibilities than the professional politician. He is



J. J. HARRIS.

a man of unquestioned principles and one who holds his convictions a sacred trust in the administration of office. There is not a man in Southwestern Colorado who has commanded the confidence of voters in a greater measure, nor is there one who, when selected by their ballots has done more to merit the preferment tendered. He is a plain, straightforward, honest and incorruptible champion of the people's cause, absolutely unapproachable by the emissaries of corporations and political cormorants, against whom his established integrity is an impassable barrier. His tireless work in behalf of worthy measures and his vigorous opposition to those he deemed unworthy won him a host of desirable friends and not a few no less desirable enemies, both among his confreres in the senate and the people at large throughout the state. He is a democrat, and the kind of a democrat who counts his friends among the ranks of all parties.





## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### THE STUBBS AND JAKWAY INTERESTS

Commercial and Industrial

The growth of the commercial and industrial interests controlled by Messrs. Stubbs & Jakway, of Durango, properly belongs in a chapter by itself, as a prominent and distinctive element in the later development of the San Juan. Ten years ago the names were scarcely known, in a business sense, outside the narrow radius of their retail patronage; today there is not a business man in southwestern Colorado or northern New Mexico who cannot quote their rating without reference to Dunn or Bradstreet.

The interests of the firm may be divided into three branches, viz.: hardware, lumber and coal. The firm's stores and lumber and coal yards are situated in Durango, Telluride and Silverton, and its trade extends all over the San Juan. The commercial end of the business is directed by Mr. L. C. Jakway, of Durango, and Mr. F. W. Stubbs looks after the firm's milling and manufacturing interests.

As hardware dealers, Messrs. Stubbs & Jakway conduct both a wholesale and retail business. Their stores are stocked with the character of goods especially suited to their locality, being practically alike in what may be termed general hardware. In special lines, however, they

dens, seven miles west of Mancos, in the heart of a heavy pine forest. The firm owns a thousand acres of timber in the vicinity of the mill, and, besides, has contracts enabling it to draw upon government and private timber by paying a stipulated price for trees on the stump. The mill has a capacity of 75,000 feet per day and its product is shipped to the firm's yards in Durango, Telluride and Silverton. The Mancos pine is an excellent grade of lumber, both for interior and exterior finish, and finds a ready market all over the state. In connection with the lumber and hardware branches, the firm carries a line of paints, oils, glass, sash, doors, etc., and is, *the.e.o.e.*, prepared to supply practically everything entering into the construction of frame buildings and all but brick or stone in any kind of structure.

As coal dealers, Stubbs & Jakway handle their own product. They operate extensive collieries at Hesperus, about fourteen miles from Durango. They own about 400 acres of coal land in this vicinity, and have a five-foot vein of an excellent bituminous coal. The present production of the mines is designed for local consumption and is only



MILLS OF THE MANCOS LUMBER COMPANY, AT GRADENS.

differ considerably. For instance, the Durango store, which has an extensive trade with farmers and ranchers, carries a complete line of farm implements, vehicles, etc. On the other hand the Telluride and Silverton stores, being in the midst of mining districts, displace this line for powder, fuse and miners' supplies. In all the stores shelf and heavy hardware, with a side line of sporting goods, may be found, including builders' hardware, mechanics' tools, blacksmiths' and plumbers' supplies, stoves, ranges, agate and tinware, cutlery, household goods, firearms, ammunition, fishing tackle, bicycles, etc. Tinsmiths and bicycle repair shops are maintained in connection with all the stores. The firm has but recently moved into its present Durango location, and it is not too much to say that the new store is one of the most handsomely appointed hardware establishments in the San Juan. The firm's warehouse facilities are ample in all of its locations.

Messrs. Stubbs & Jakway are proprietors of the Mancos Lumber Company, owning and operating one of the largest sawmills in Colorado. The mill is located at Gra-

about fifty tons per day. The capacity, however, is practically unlimited, and can be increased to meet an increased demand at any time. The firm operates the mines under the style of the Ute Coal & Coke Company, and may ultimately build coke ovens, though nothing definite can be stated at present.

The firm of Stubbs & Jakway is composed of Messrs. F. W. Stubbs and L. C. Jakway. Mr. Stubbs was born in Iowa, in 1859, but came west as a young man. He has been twenty-eight years in Colorado, most of which time he has been identified with the lumbering industry. Mr. Jakway is a native of the Buckeye state, but came to Colorado from Pennsylvania in 1883, being then in his twenty-first year. He settled in the Gunnison country, where he remained until '84, in which year he joined a Canadian Pacific surveying party in British Columbia. He returned to Colorado in '85, and, becoming associated with Mr. Stubbs, formed a partnership which has endured until the present time. Individually, Messrs. Stubbs & Jakway are men of public spirit and progressive ideas.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### S. M. BIGGS

Postmaster, Durango, Colorado

If the importance of a community, as is frequently asserted, is commensurate with its patronage of the United States mails, Durango is beyond question the most important point in southwestern Colorado. The government divides postoffices into four classes, and the classification is determined by the stamp receipts, the rank being represented by the descending scale of 1st., 2nd., 3rd., and 4th. The salaries of officers and character of service are determined in the same manner, though there is a considerable range in each class in this respect. For instance, Durango has been an office of the 2nd. class for eight years past, and yet it is only within the past two years that the city has had a carrier service.

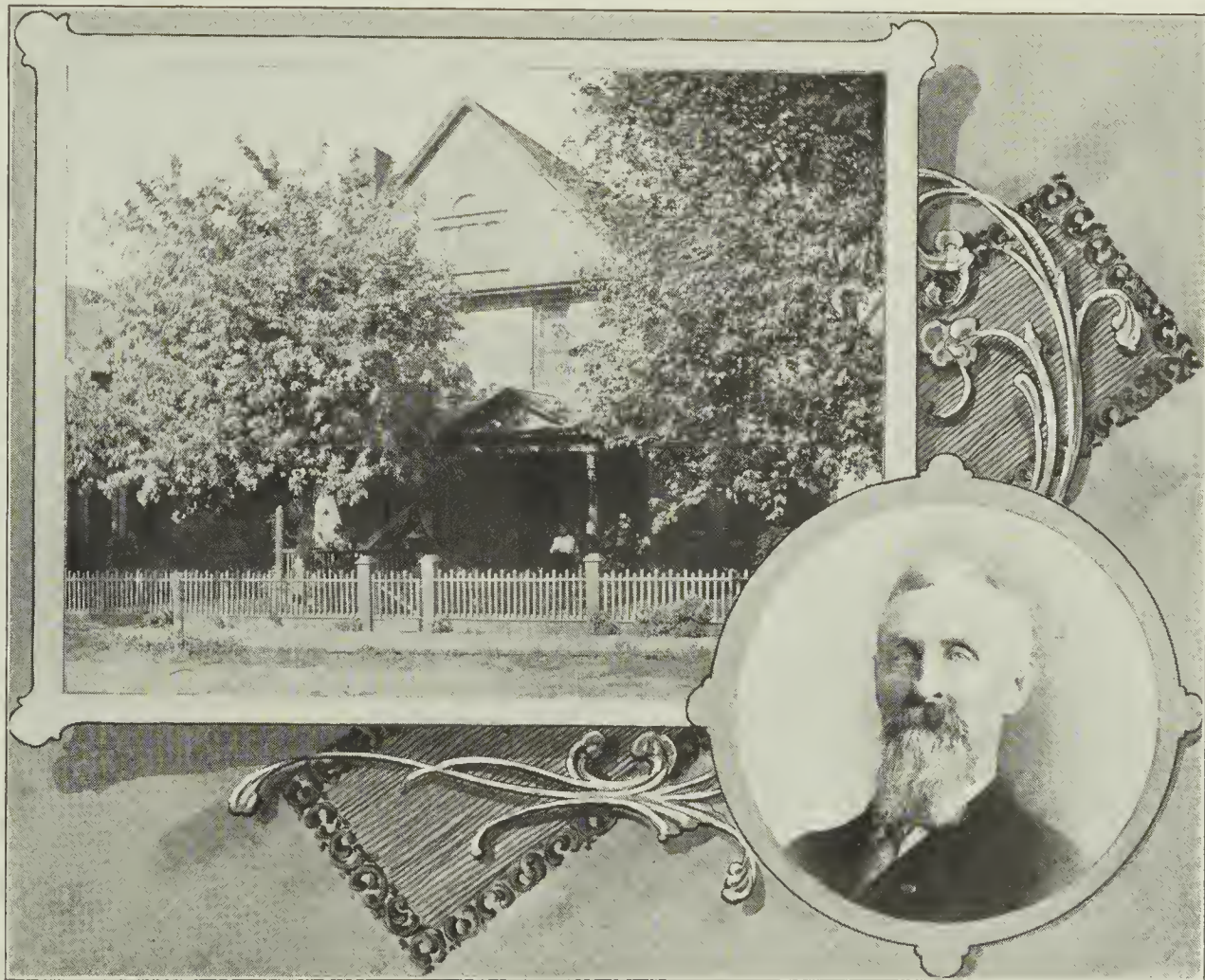
Few cities are so situated that it is possible for them to become offices of the second class with a population of less than 10,000. Durango has been more fortunate. Being the principal distributing point of the San Juan, the sale of stamps has been out of proportion to its population; and its growing importance as a commercial center is evident in the fact that, notwithstanding the post office box rentals fell off fully one-half as a result of the introduction of a carrier system, the postal receipts the following year exceeded those of the previous year by nearly \$1,000.00. When the present incumbent took charge of the office his actual salary was based on receipts of \$10,300.00 for the preceding year. Last year the receipts were \$11,873.00, and his salary, on this basis, was increased to \$2,300.00; and, from present indications, he is in line for even greater increase before the expiration of his present term of office.

Postmaster S. M. Biggs was appointed for the full term of four years, by President McKinley during his first term, and entered upon the duties of his office April 1st, 1899. It was a result of his tireless efforts, aided by Senator Wolcott, that a carrier service was secured for Durango, and the growth of local postal receipts has been greater during his incumbency than at any time in the history of the office. As a result there are three carriers for the city and one carrier for the rural delivery, giving Durango a service in every respect equal to that of cities of the 1st. class.

Mr. Biggs is a native of Ohio, and was born in 1840. He had barely completed his education when the war broke out, and he enlisted with the 85th. Ohio and after-

wards in the signal corps of the regular army, serving throughout the war. He was with Hunter at Lynchburg and Sheridan at Cedar Creek, being in the same army corps with McKinley during the Shenandoah campaign. He was mustered out of the service in '65, and, after a brief stay in Illinois, where his parents had removed, went to Kansas, where he lived for nearly a quarter of a century. He taught school for a while, but was a civil engineer by profession, and was nine years county surveyor of his county. He also engaged extensively in merchandising and was one of the prominent merchants of his section.

Disposing of his Kansas interests, Mr. Biggs came, in 1889, to New Mexico, where he was prominently connected with the lumber industry for a number of years, as secre-



S. M. BIGGS AND HIS RESIDENCE.

tary of the Biggs Lumber Company, of Chama. He sold out his interest in the company in '98, and took in part payment the company's Durango yards. He subsequently sold this property, when he was sworn into office as postmaster of Durango. Mr. Biggs received his appointment in recognition of his sterling integrity and of his staunch support of the republican party during its dark days in this section. When he came to the county there were but 86 republicans out of 2,800 voters, and to his untiring efforts as chairman of the republican county central committee, the party in a great measure owes its rehabilitation and present strong organization in La Plata county. Mr. Biggs is a broad-minded Lincoln republican, and a natural leader about whom his meagre party took a bold stand in the hour of its need.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN.

### I. B. MELVILLE

A Member of Durango's Legal Fraternity

Durango is especially fortunate in the character and standing of her professional men. Most of them are of liberal education and of exceptional attainments, and to accord them a place among the first in the state is to offer them only what is really their own. Especially is this true of the legal profession, which is represented in this city by some of the brightest lawyers in the state. Among those who have won marked distinction within the space of a comparatively few years, is Mr. I. B. Melville.

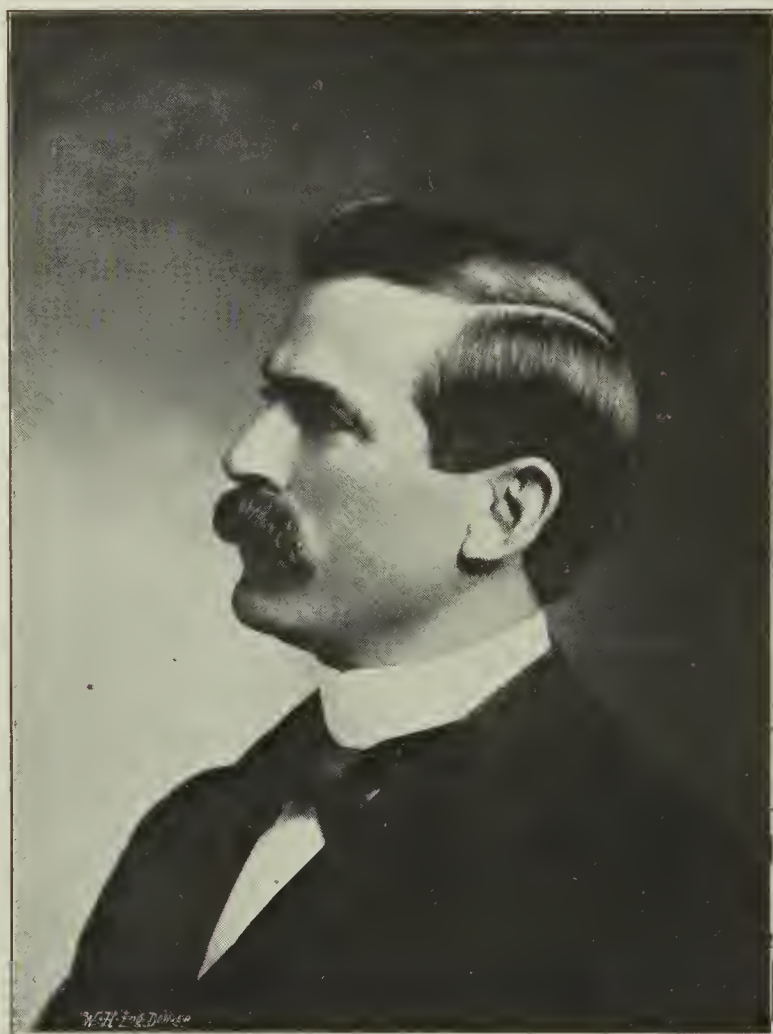
A native of Michigan and educated at Kalamazoo College, at the age of 21 he removed to southwestern Kansas where he began the study of law, first in the office of F. M. Smith and later with A. H. Tyler, of the city of Parsons in that state. Devoting himself diligently to his studies, he was admitted to the bar after less than a year of reading.

Unfortunately, Mr. Melville's health failing at this time, he was compelled to seek open-air employment, postponing the practice of his profession until such time as he might regain his health sufficiently to again admit of office confinement. Having an opportunity to enter the service of the M. K. & T. Railway Company, he accepted the position and for ten years successfully followed this line of work until the frequent change of climate and the out-of-door exercise wrought the desired effect, and he fully regained his former robust health.

Coming to Durango in January, 1898, and having been ten years out of the profession, and not having the required two years' experience in the actual practice of law, he entered the office of Reese McCloskey, Esq., of this city, to brush up before applying for admission in this state. In December of the same year he took the examination at Denver, standing among the best of his class, and was admitted to practice in the state courts of Colorado, and later in the United States circuit and district courts.

Mr. Melville has come to the front very rapidly in the little over two years he has been practicing in Durango, having proved himself to be a man especially adapted to his profession, and one for whom the future holds even greater successes. He numbers among his clients some of the strongest corporate and private concerns in the San Juan, and he is known as a tireless advocate, and an able, forcible, and convincing man, both in manner and speech. He has been retained in many of the most noted criminal cases in this portion of the state, but having made a very careful study of irrigation, mining and civil law generally, he is an authority upon anything that may arise in legal practice. He has the reputation of saving his clients the expense of costly litigation, where possible, and of never bringing an action in court that can be settled by other means.

Mr. Melville takes an ardent interest in politics, not for the sake of office, for he has never been an aspirant for one, but because he believes that it is the duty of every citizen to take an interest in legislative affairs. Coming to the San Juan at a time when Republicanism was not at all popular, he stood boldly forth for what he considered



I. B. MELVILLE.

the best principles of government, and taking an active part in municipal, county, state, and national campaigns, by the strong logic and convincing manner that wins him cases at the bar, he has added many votes each year to his party's strength, and at the present time the Republican central committee of La Plata county, of which he has been chairman since coming to Durango, has the reputation of being the most thoroughly equipped political organization in the entire state, and as evidence of its efficiency, the Republican party achieved the most sweeping victory in the last election ever accorded it in the history of La Plata county.

### RICHARD Mc CLOUD

Attorney and Counsellor at Law

Richard McCloud was born in Ireland, in 1846, but was brought by his parents to America when he was but two years old. He graduated from Norwich Free Academy, Norwich, Conn., in 1865, and from Columbia Law School, New York City, in 1872; having been a classmate of E. O. Wolcott at Norwich, and Mayor Van Wyck, of Greater New York, at Columbia.

Mr. McCloud came to Colorado, in 1882, after ten years practice in the states of New York and Connecticut. He was associated with Judge Ford, of Silverton, until he received the appointment of Register of the U. S. land office, at Durango, in 1886, when he came to this city. He served the full term of four years, and was re-appointed in 1894, serving under his second appointment until April, 1899.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

During his incumbency he received many testimonials to his efficiency from Washington, and his experience has especially fitted him for land office cases. He was a member of the law firm of McCloud & Witter, his associate being Daniel Witter, of Denver, at the time the Ute reservation was thrown open for settlement, in 1899, the partnership being formed for this practice.

Mr. McCloud has a general practice but makes a specialty of land and mining law. He has a large clientage with homeseekers, and is in a position to give them valuable information. As a mining lawyer he had valuable experience in Silverton, before coming to Durango, and is considered an authority in that department of legal practice.

### FRANK S. BALSTER

Jeweler and Optician

F. S. Balster, jeweler and optician, is especially worthy of mention in the Durango department of "Silver San Juan," not only as being the oldest established jeweler of the Smelter City, but, as well, because of his intimate connection with the political affairs of La Plata county.

Mr. Balster is one of the million born Canadians who have been adopted by Uncle Sam, and, like many of them, he has attained prominence both in the business arena and in politics. He was born in the province of Ontario, in 1861, and served his five years apprenticeship to a jeweler and watchmaker in the town of Sarnia. As soon as he attained his majority, he embarked in business for himself, in Emporia, Kansas.

Mr. Balster came to Colorado in 1889, settling in

finned to jewelry. A hardly less important feature is the optical department. The science of optics is now so far advanced that lenses are ground and supplied to the profession; and a thoroughly skilled optician, provided with the latest improved instruments and appliances for testing the sight, and a well selected stock of lenses, can make examinations and fit glasses or spectacles to the most difficult cases. In view of this fact, it is gratifying to state that Mr. Balster is an experienced optician, and is provided with all that is required for the practice of the profession.

Another line, that is of more than passing interest, is his assortment of Indian curios, Navajo blankets, views, etc. Situated as he is, in the midst of Indians and frontier



F. S. BALSTER, HIS STORE AND RESIDENCE

Ouray, and opening another jewelry establishment. He came to Durango three years later and opened his present store, which is the oldest established jewelry house in the city. Mr. Balster's stock is very complete, and has been selected with especial reference to the demands of a fashionable trade. The elegance and newness of everything gives the impression that the contents of the beautiful show cases have just come from the hands of the artists who made them. Mr. Balster is an expert watchmaker and manufacturing jeweler, and makes a specialty of difficult watch repairing and the manufacture of badges, trophies, emblems, etc., for which he submits designs and estimates. He is official watch inspector for the Rio Grande Southern railroad, and does expert work for his general trade at reasonable figures.

As intimated above, Mr. Balster's business is not con-

traders, Mr. Balster is enabled to pick up many interesting curios on the reservation at a comparatively small cost. This is especially true of the famous Navajo blankets, the most closely woven heavy fabric in the world, which are hand-made and which contribute largely to the support of the only self-sustaining tribe of Indians in the west. These blankets, a single one of which may represent months of work, are sometimes secured for a bagatelle compared to their actual value.

As stated in the beginning of this sketch, Mr. Balster is intimately associated with the political affairs of La Plata county. His election to the treasurership of the county in 1899 fittingly expresses the confidence and universal regard in which he is held, and his capable administration of the trust has won him the congratulations of everyone, irrespective of party.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### GEORGE BAUER

Rancher, Merchant and Banker, Mancos, Colorado

It was well when Destiny ordained that an empire be builded in the western wilderness, that there were men of George Bauer's stamp to lay the foundation. Born in Siegen, Westphalia, Prussia, in the year 1848, Mr. Bauer remained in his native land until he was several years of age, when, in 1865, he came with his parents to the Great Republic. Settling in Illinois, with no capital but his vigorous physique, inherited from a long line of sturdy ancestors, and the sterling virtues—industry, thrift and honesty,—the heritage of his race, the young German secured employment as the assistant of a stone mason. His sinewy arm and quick intelligence soon made him an expert with hammer and chisel, and, having learned the stone mason's trade, he left Illinois to seek his fortune further west.

Mr. Bauer was a contractor's foreman in the construction department of the Union Pacific railway three years after he first touched American soil, and he devoted a year to railroad grading in the Wasatch mountains on the great transcontinental line. He was only twenty-one when he left the employ of the railroad to help found the town of Independence, Kansas, and he was in his twenty-fourth year when he left Kansas for Colorado. He was at Fairplay in '72, and entered the San Juan early in '73, and for the few years following worked at his trade, during which time he put up scores of buildings in the new towns of Del Norte, Lake City and Silverton, many of which still stand as landmarks of the early days and in mute testimony to the conscientious workmanship of the mason and contractor who erected them.

In 1881, having accumulated a small capital, Mr. Bauer purchased a stock of general merchandise, which he took into Montezuma county, then, except for a few settlers and stockmen, who carried their supplies in from great distances, populated only by Indians. Camping on the banks of the beautiful little stream, Mancos, named by the ecclesiastics who crossed this country over a century before, he decided to build a cabin and open up his stock. This pioneer store was the nucleus about which the town of Mancos afterwards gathered, and, as Mr. Bauer was first as respects his presence on the ground, so he remains first in prominence and interests after twenty years of residence in the Mancos valley.

Mr. Bauer's trade was naturally drawn from the settlers, stockmen and Indians for very many years, before the country developed into a more populous section, and trading is more expressive of his business than selling; for money was not so current then as in later years, and the transfer of goods was quite as often based on the primitive mode of exchange as on cash value. The lands of the Mancos valley were fertile and well watered, and Mr. Bauer naturally took up ranching in connection with merchandising. One of his ranches, which he still retains, is a 240-acre tract, almost within the city limits of Mancos, and the products of orchard, garden and field yearly harvested run into the thousands of dollars. Naturally, also, having been born and reared in a mining community, and having prospected considerably in the Silverton district, Mr. Bauer's

eyes were not closed to the possibilities of mineral existing in the La Plata mountains, about Mancos, and when he had time he took his pick and shovel and scoured the hills, prospecting for the precious metals. His efforts were not unrewarded, and his discoveries and development of properties brought the Mancos district to the attention of capital, to which he afterwards sold a portion of his holdings for \$25,000.00. The growth of his mercantile business consequent upon the settling of the valley, the building of the town and the completion of the Rio Grande Southern railroad, gave unmistakable evidences of the presence of considerable money

in the valley, and, in 1886, Mr. Bauer opened a private bank. His judgment was vindicated by the immediate support manifest in the depositing of large amounts of money by farmers and merchants throughout the valley. The country was new, and, while everyone was prosperous, it required development, and to develop it money was needed. The bank was thus afforded an opportunity to place loans to advantage, and it may be doubted if any other agency has been so intimately identified with the growth and prosperity of the Mancos valley as Mr. Bauer through his bank. He has not been a man to squander his money in ostentatious living, though he has given his children every advantage that money can secure and lives in one of the handsomest residences in southwestern Colorado. As rapidly as he has accumulated money over and above a safe reserve, it has been re-invested in his



GEORGE BAUER AND HIS RESIDENCE, MANCOS, COLORADO.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

business, and the effect has been its use for the upbuilding of the locality in which it was originally produced.

Mr. Bauer's family is composed of himself, wife, son and daughter. He was married in Del Norte, in 1876, his wife having been Miss Augusta E. Schulz. John, now a young man of twenty-three, attended Golden School of Mines, and he has a finely equipped metallurgical laboratory at Mancos, where his mining lore is invaluable to his father in his mining operations. Miss Bauer is a young lady of high accomplishments. She is two years younger than her brother, and received her education at Wolfe Hall, in Denver, and at a conservatory of music in Denver and under private tutors in San Francisco. She is also a talented artist, and many of her productions in oil adorn the walls of the Bauer mansion.

Considerable surprise has been expressed that a man of Mr. Bauer's wealth and influence should not have become a conspicuous figure in the political arena, for there is not an office on the political roster of the state to which he might not have aspired; but he has preferred to remain a private citizen, and, with a few exceptions, has rejected every political preferment tendered him. Such leisure as the colonel has he devotes to his family and his orchard, which is one of the finest in the state. While active in mind and body, he has of late years unshouldered many of the burdens of his immense business interests, by placing them under the direction of responsible managers, and he now devotes a larger portion of his time to the enjoyment of that domestic felicity which wealth cannot purchase, nor poverty dissipate.

## THE BAUER MERCANTILE COMPANY

Mancos, Colorado

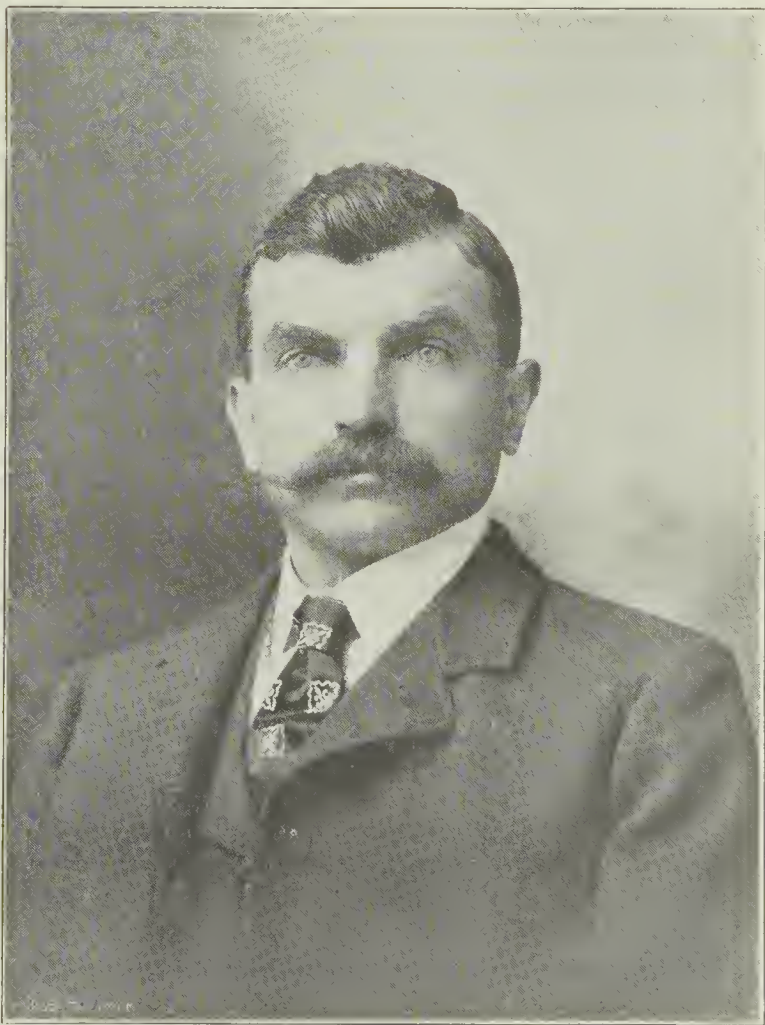
The George Bauer Mercantile Company is an enterprise that would do credit, both in magnitude and character, to a city of 10,000 inhabitants, and the amount of business annually transacted exceeds that of even more pretentious concerns. The business was founded in 1881, by George Bauer, who brought in the first stock of merchandise ever opened up in Montezuma county. So much for the early history of the business. In 1900, the trade of the house had grown to such a magnitude that Mr. Bauer deemed it wise to incorporate, and, accordingly, The Geo. Bauer Mercantile Company, with O. G. Crenshaw, as president; O. E. Noland, as vice president; Geo. Bauer as secretary and treasurer, and William Roessler, as general manager, was organized and incorporated. Mr. Crenshaw is a travelling representative of the Simmons Hardware Co., of St. Louis, and, as such, is enabled to secure the company the closest figures on everything in the hardware line quoted to the trade. Mr. Noland is an old pioneer of the Mancos valley, and one of the best known men in Montezuma county. Mr. Bauer, the founder of the business, is also a banker, and has more extensive business interests than any other man in this section of the state. Mr. Roessler has been associated with Mr. Bauer for more than twenty years, having come with him from Durango to open up his first stock of goods.

Among the first changes inaugurated by the company upon its organization were extensive building improvements, and the fine modern block now owned and occupied by The Geo. Bauer Mercantile Company would grace a city of metropolitan rank. It is a handsome and substantial white stone structure, 75-ft. front by 131 feet deep, and stands on the principal business corner of the city.

The forward section of the building is occupied by the general sales rooms, 50x90, and the bank, 24x50 in dimensions. Back of these is a general ware room with 3,960 square feet of floor space, and below is a basement 50x90 feet in dimension. There are, besides, two warehouses 32x80 and 25x90 feet in dimensions. The ware rooms and basement are all stocked to overflowing with goods in the case and the heavier articles of stock, such as stoves and ranges, wagons, farm implements, etc. The necessity of these extensive storage facilities is evident when it is mentioned that the wholesale trade of the house extends all over Montezuma and Dolores counties and into New Mexico, Arizona and Utah. Many merchants of the interior receive their entire stocks from this one establishment. This warrants the company in buying exclusively in car lots, and the important discounts secured on large bills and cash

settlements enable the management to defy competition in both wholesale and retail departments.

Technically speaking, the general merchandise store of a few years ago is the department store of today. The south salesroom is devoted almost exclusively to dry goods and ladies' furnishings. The north room contains everything in the way of groceries, crockery, glassware and shelf hardware in demand in this section. The boot and shoe department extends across the front sections of the two stores and across the rear is a raised platform, where hats, clothing and gentlemen's furnishings are on display. Below this platform is a stock of carpets, mattings and linoleums, and over the railing are hung Navajo blankets and rugs. Ranges, wagons, farm tools and implements, mining supplies and provisions occupy the various warerooms.



WILLIAM ROESSLER.



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

## TRIMBLE HOT SPRINGS

The Spa of the Rockies

Centuries before the white man set foot in the valley of the Rio de Las Animas, the aborigine laved his stricken limbs in the bubbling warmth of Trimble Hot Springs, and, with the vigor of youth renewed in his veins, went forth to proclaim the marvels of its thermal waters to his tribe. For centuries the mineral springs of the Animas had been the sanitarium of the savage, and, when the march of civilization entered the wilderness of the San Juan, the heritage of Ute and Navajo passed to their pale-face brothers.

While the mineral properties of Trimble waters have long been known to possess prophylactic and therapeutic powers, both for internal and external use, it has only been within the last five years that there have been proper facilities for entertaining the health and pleasure seeker.

Hitherto Trimble Hot Springs has been known as a

ment, while bowling, billiards and swimming supply engaging pastime indoors. A path for the exclusive use of cyclists has been made, between Trimble and Durango, a distance of nine miles, through one of the most beautiful valleys in Colorado.

The Hot Springs Hotel, or "Hermosa House," which is the more poetic name by which this fine caravansary is known, is an imposing three-story brick structure of handsome and substantial architecture. The house is lighted by electricity and heated by steam throughout, and lacks none of the modern conveniences which belong to the first-class resort hotel. The rooms are large and handsomely furnished, many being en suite with bath, and each is in direct communication with the office. A skilled chef is in charge of the culinary department, and the cuis-



THE POOL

THE HERMOSA HOUSE

THE BOWLING ALLEYS

THE BILLIARD ROOM

summer resort. It will henceforth be conducted as an all-the-year place. People of southwestern Colorado could travel thousands of miles, suffer weeks of fatigue, and not find another Trimble. The natural beauty of the situation, the perfection of climate, the curative properties of the springs, the excellence of accommodations are elements combined in few resorts, and if Trimble Hot Springs lacks the excitement and novelty of Monte Carlo or Baden Baden, it contributes the more to recuperation and rest.

But Trimble Hot Springs is not devoid of amusements and sports. The mountains back of the springs abound in game, and the crystal waters of the Animas river hold wary and gamy trout enough to satisfy the most ardent disciples of Walton. Croquet, tennis, golf and archery afford entertaining and invigorating out-of-door amuse-

ment, while bowling, billiards and swimming supply engaging pastime indoors. Everything has been arranged for the comfort as well as pleasure of guests. An avenue of cottages is near the hotel, and, within a block are the baths. There are three large plunges (one 60x40 and two 20x30) and a great number of tubs. The natural temperature of the water varies from 90 to 130 degrees from the different springs, and the flow is continuous, the pools emptying and filling all the time.

The improvements at Trimble were built and are owned by T. D. Burns. The present season he leased the entire property to Mr. C. C. Murray. Mr. Murray has begun properly, and that he will make a success of an all-year resort is evident from the care he takes to make the place in every respect the equal of fashionable retreats elsewhere. Write for rates.



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

## A PROMINENT DURANGO INDUSTRY

The Local Foundry, Machine Shops and Boiler Works

The Durango Foundry and Machine Shop and Vulcan Boiler and Sheet Iron Works are prominent industries, not so much for the number of men employed, as for their contribution to the other industries of this section. There is not a natural resource, timber, mineral or agricultural, that does not rely to a considerable extent on one of these plants, and the same is true in a general way of every manufacturing enterprise in the San Juan; for the business of these concerns extends all over the portions of Colorado and New Mexico comprehended by that name.

The equipment of the foundry, shop and iron works is modern throughout, and the power is furnished by 20HP. boiler and engine. There are two large lathes and one small one, varying from 12 to 72 inches; two pipe cutters, the larger suited to six-inch pipe; two machine drills, a screw cutter and milling tool, of the latest pattern, and everything required for foundry, boiler and machine work. It will be thus apparent that the facilities of the shops for turning out a high grade of work are complete, in so far as equipment is concerned. The other prerequisite, skilled workmen, has been supplied, and, with standard

ence covers a period of forty-six years, thirty years of which has been in this country. He has been in Colorado since '79, having come to the state with the intention of settling in Leadville. After more than twenty-two years, during which time he has been almost everywhere but in the Carbonate camp, his original destination remains unreached. He has been six years in Durango, and is manager of the two plants, of which he is one of the lessees.

Godfrey & Company are manufacturers of and dealers in brass, copper and iron castings, ore cars, boilers, engines, hoisters and pumps, cast and wrought iron pipe and fittings, plumbing goods, Leschen & Sons' wire rope, etc., etc. They make a specialty of all kinds of railroad castings, locomotive repairing and general railroad work; and, by reason of the long experience of members of the firm in this class of work, they are exceptionally well prepared to meet competition in this direction. They have a pit especially constructed for locomotive repairs, and handle nearly all the railroad and mill repairs in this section of the country. The firm's patrons are railroad men, mill men, lumbermen, smelter men, mine superintendents, man-



F. G. HOLMAN.

W. J. GODFREY

W. H. HOLMAN

materials, nothing is left to prevent the local plant becoming a successful competitor of the larger concerns of Denver.

The plants are leased by Godfrey & Company, the terms of the lease being such that, at its expiration, the lessees have the privilege of purchasing. The firm of Godfrey & Company is composed of Messrs. W. H. and F. G. Holman and W. J. Godfrey, all practical men and each in charge of a department of the business. They are all, likewise, English-born, though they have been so long in America as to have become thoroughly American. The Holman Brothers learned their trades in Brighton, England, F. G. being a skilled machinist, and W. H. a boiler maker. They have been nearly twenty years in the United States, and, prior to their association with Mr. Godfrey, were with the Denver & Rio Grande shops in this city, F. G. having been master mechanic of the roundhouse, and having been sixteen years with the road. Mr. Godfrey also learned his trade in England, and his experi-

ufacturers and the general public, all over the San Juan; and its successful competition with Denver and other cities bidding for foundry, boiler and machine work, is a sufficient testimonial to its ability and disposition to meet outside prices. The firm has built up a home industry of which Durango is proud, and one it will cost no one a premium to support.

In concluding, it is appropriate that some mention should be made of the "Durango" ore car, invented for W. H. Holman, and for which a patent is now pending in Washington. This car, which is being manufactured exclusively by Godfrey & Company, is a new departure, and is not extensively known even in the San Juan; but it is one that has so decidedly demonstrated its superiority over anything of the kind hitherto placed on the market, that it is rapidly displacing the Truax and other patents wherever it has been introduced. No effort has been made to advertise it, as the firm has not the facilities at present to handle more orders than come unsolicited.



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

## THE SIOUX MINING COMPANY

Properties in San Juan and Clear Creek Counties

When this company was organized in 1897, its assets consisted solely of options. It now owns ten mines outright and two valuable water rights in two of the richest mineral sections of the state, viz.: the Clear Creek and San Juan, which, with about six miles square in the Cripple Creek district, produce 99 per cent. of all the gold mined in Colorado. The Clear Creek country has been mined since '57, and there are still untold millions to re-

Picayune Gulch, Eureka mining district, San Juan county, two and a half miles from Eureka townsite, which is the nearest railroad point. The altitude of the group is 10,600 feet, and the claims are heavily timbered and plentifully watered. Railroad grades, at present used for wagon roads, have been built to the mines, and the extension of the line of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad is only a question of time. It is a down-grade run all the way to the smelter



BOARDING HOUSE AND TWO VIEWS OF SHAFT HOUSE OF SIOUX MINING COMPANY

ward the industry of the miner. The San Juan is a newer country, but is a patriarch compared with many great camps and districts of the state. Mining began here in 1868, and after '74, when the reservation was thrown open to mineral location thousands swarmed the hills, and some of the greatest mines in the world were discovered. In the former locality the company owns the Centennial mine, near Georgetown, and the Nabob, Sultan and Climax mines near Idaho Springs, Clear Creek county. In the San Juan the company's properties are the Picayune and Mogul groups, near Eureka.

### THE PICAYUNE GROUP.

This group consists of the Surprise, King, Fortune and Queen mines, located on the Animas river at the mouth of

at Durango, and it has been demonstrated that three-dollar ore can be mined at a profit where only the concentrates are shipped.

The Surprise mine is a clearly defined fissure vein, six feet between the walls, and carries gold, silver, copper and lead, assays running as high as 27 ounces in gold and 114 ounces in silver from selected specimens. Shipments have been made from this mine averaging \$24.76 per ton, and indications point to a larger and richer ore body on the lower levels. The King mine is an extension of the Surprise, on the same vein, and should be in every respect as valuable. The Sioux company owns 2,700 feet of this vein. The Fortune mine crosses the Surprise almost at a right angle. It is a splendid four-foot vein, carrying copper principally supplemented by gold, silver and lead values. The Keystone, which has shipped a large quantity of valuable ore



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

is the eastern extension of this vein. The Queen mine crosses the King lode near the east end of the Surprise mine. It is a clearly defined, five-foot vein, in which marcasite, copper, gold and silver predominate. Three assays of galena ore from this vein gave an average value of \$50.95 per ton, though the body of the vein runs from \$12.00 to \$27.00 per ton near the surface.

These mines are being developed through two tunnels, and a shaft on the Surprise vein. The lower tunnel has been driven a distance of 500 feet. At a point 92 feet from the entrance an upraise connects the tunnel with the power house, 56 feet above. A compressor plant is in operation, and air drills are being used in driving and sinking. The company is sinking a shaft in line with the upraise to the power house, and another level will be run at a depth of 150 feet. The ore has been stripped nearly the entire length of the tunnel, where it will be kept as a reserve until the mill is completed. Average assays throughout its entire extent, return \$27.00 to the ton, and, as the vein varies from four to ten feet in width, a moment's calculation is sufficient to convince the most skeptical that the Surprise is already a mine. The upper tunnel is in 209 feet, and is crosscutting for the vein, which yielded a surface assay of \$130.55 near this point. The Queen vein will be cut by the 150-ft. level and the Fortune will be crosscut by the lower tunnel.

All four of these mines are so located that mineral can be loaded into an ore car, hoisted to the surface through their shaft, and run directly into the mill, without rehandling. The company's water right is one of the best in the district, a 742-foot flume from the take-in to the penstock giving a drop of 291 feet. The flume is constructed of wood, the upper portion of the pipe being 24 and the lower portion 12 inches in diameter. This gives ample force for running mine and mill machinery. The power plant consists of a 25-HP. electric hoist capable of raising ore 500 feet; a 20-HP., 4-drill, Leyner compressor, and a 45-K. W. dynamo, all operated by water power. A 20-stamp mill, the estimated cost of which is \$16,000.00, will be erected immediately below the power house, and ore will be hoisted through the 56-foot upraise from all the lower workings to the power plant and dumped into the upper part of the mill, through which it will pass by gravity, when the concentrates will be returned to the same shaft, through one of the levels, and will again be hoisted in the same manner to the power building, and dumped from there into cars for shipment to the smelter.

### THE MOGUL GROUP.

This group consists of the Grand Mogul and Mogul, located at the head of the south fork of Eureka gulch, about six miles from the Picayune group, but only four miles from the railroad. The Grand Mogul is an immense mother lode, from 30 to 50 feet wide, and can be traced by the eye for several miles on the surface. Three distinct ore chutes crop out on the company's territory, one carrying copper, gold and silver values, one heavy in galena, with some gold and silver, and the other largely zinc, with gold and silver. Several tons of rich ore have been taken out, and large quantities can be secured at any time. The company is now engaged in running a tunnel to cut both these veins, and it is doubtful if there are any properties in the district that will develop more richly than these.

The Mogul mine is near the Grand Mogul. The vein varies from eight to forty feet in width, and can be seen on the mountain side three miles away. The ore crops out on the surface at various points, and assays running from \$76.00 to \$5,000.00 per ton in gold have been secured.

### THE CENTENNIAL MINE.

The Centennial mine is located near Georgetown, in Clear Creek county. It has shipped quite largely in the past, and is on the same immense fissure as several other mines that are heavy shippers, and when developed will prove a source of wealth to the company. It is one of that class of immense galena veins, to which Clear Creek county owes its great wealth, and the more such are developed, the more they will produce. It will undoubtedly make a big paying mine, and this company was very fortunate in securing it.



COL. E. C. CONDIT.

### THE NABOB GROUP.

The Nabob, Sultan and Climax mines form this group, and they are all owned by the company. They are located near Fall River, a little over a mile from the railroad. These mines are old discoveries, but, like many rich properties, have lain dormant for years for the want of proper parties to develop them. Good ore, nevertheless, has been mined and shipped from them, and The Sioux company was very fortunate in securing this group at a reasonable figure.

### THE COMPANY.

The Sioux Mining Company was organized three years ago with a capitalization of 25,000 fully paid and non-asses-



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

sable shares, at a par value of \$10.00 per share, giving a total of \$250,000.00. Many companies with less property, are capitalized for ten times that amount, and few are incorporated for less than a million. The stock of such companies at a few cents per share would be dearer than Sioux stock at par. The reason for this is plain to see. The Sioux Mining Company was not organized as a stock jobbing scheme. It was submitted to men who desired to see their money expended for development and not for high salaries and misappropriation.

This company is very fortunate in that it has no bonds and leases that must be paid, or lose its properties, with

all the money expended thereon. It owns its own mines, **free from all incumbrances**, and has the money assured with which to develop them. It has no debts, and its pay checks are always honored at the bank. Its work is being pushed with intelligence and energy, and it will soon be listed among the heavy shippers of San Juan county.

The officers of the company are J. M. Highland, President; P. B. Merritt, First Vice President; R. W. Hughes, Second Vice-President; Sam'l Finlayson, Third Vice-President; E. C. Condit, Secretary, and L. W. Kibler, Treasurer. The address of the company is Eureka, Colorado.

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## WILLIAM WOLF

The First White Man in the San Juan

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In his search for data the historian of the west finds cause for felicitation in the fact that, of the old pioneers whose careers have been most closely interwoven with the growth of its civilization, so many are still living and enjoying the vigorous manhood which so well befits the dauntless spirit that won them places in history. When the annals of the San Juan shall have been written for permanent record, the name of William Wolf will be mentioned as the first white man to enter this section of wonderful wealth and future fame.

William Wolf is a native of Hesse Castle, Germany. He was born in 1836, and is, therefore, now sixty-five years of age; but his vigorous age would lead one to suppose him ten years younger. He was reared to military disci-

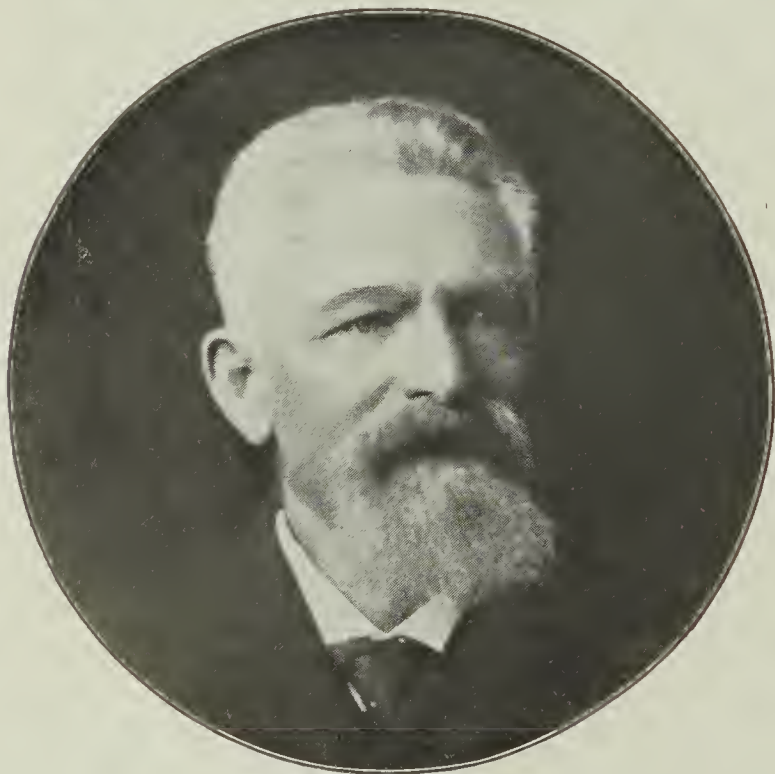
upon the present site of Durango more than twenty years before the first habitation was built in the valley of the Las Animas. He returned east by way of Santa Fe.

Mr. Wolf was in Central City, Colorado, when the war broke out, and he enlisted in Company C., of the Second Colorado regiment, in 1862. He served three years, during which time he saw active service, taking part in several battles that will live in history so long as record endures. After the war he worked as a machinist for the Union Pacific railroad, then building, and afterwards engaged in ranching, to which he devoted a number of years. He later went into the mercantile business in Santa Fe, New Mexico, making a specialty of hides and pelts. Those were the days of quick sales and large profits, and Mr. Wolf soon made a competence. He was destined soon to lose it, however, for, coming back to Colorado, he became interested in mining in the Needle mountains, and was unfortunate in his investments.

With the courage and perseverance that mark the pioneer, Mr. Wolf came to Durango, then a settlement of only a few hundred hardy men and their wives and children, and began all over the struggle for fortune in the frontier place. He re-engaged in the hide, pelt and wool business, and in a few years recouped the losses he had sustained in mining. The times have changed, and there is not the money in any mercantile pursuit that there was in the early days, but Mr. Wolf continues in business, trading in wool, hides and pelts, as he did twenty years ago. He has had a partner for the past eight years, in the person of N. F. Cooke, and, though profits are not what they were in the frontier times, the business is conducted ably and is counted one of the most prosperous in Durango. The firm does business under the style of William Wolf & Company. Mr. Cooke was elected county commissioner of La Plata county in 1899, and is a prominent citizen of Durango.

Addenda:

Since the above was written Mr. Ernest Wetter has become a member of the firm, and the property on the corner of Main avenue and Sixth street, formerly belonging to Mr. Wolf, has been purchased. It is the intention of the firm to at once install an ice and cold storage plant on the ground and engage in a general storage business. The firm will have ample facilities for storing goods of all kinds and will be prepared to furnish storage room with any desired temperature to customers at reasonable rates. This is merely an addition to the firm's business, and it will continue to deal in hides and wool as heretofore.



WILLIAM WOLF.

pline, in accordance with the German custom, and had scarcely served his term in the gymnasium when the Crimean war broke out. He served from '54 to '55 in the English army, leaving the Fatherland in the latter year to come to the new world. He had not yet attained his majority when he first touched the soil of the western hemisphere, and he was only twenty-two when, in 1858, he came from Halifax to the United States to join a government exploring expedition headed for the San Juan. On the same trip he crossed over into the San Juan, and stood



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

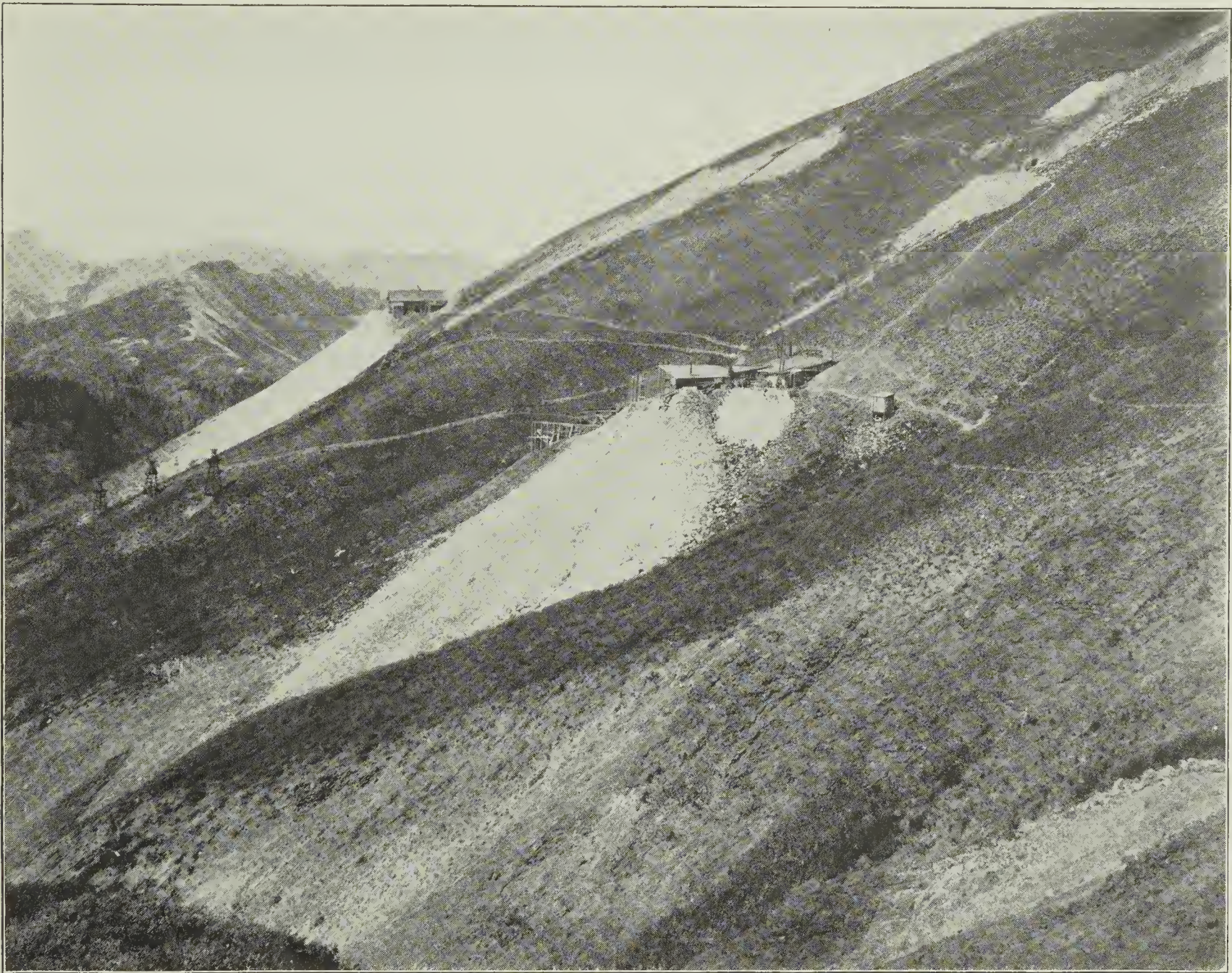
## THE GOLD KING CONSOLIDATED MINES COMPANY

Operating Extensive Gold Mines and Collieries in San Juan and La Plata Counties

The Gold King Consolidated Mines Company was organized with a capitalization of \$6,000,000.00, in July, 1900, to absorb the interests of the Gold King Mining & Milling Company, the American Mining & Tunnel Company, the Anglo-Saxon Mining & Milling Company and the Rocky Mountain Coal Company. The Silverton, Gladstone & Northerly Railroad, though a separate corporation, is owned by the same people and was built to effect railway connection between the consolidated company's mines at Gladstone and its collieries near Durango.

possessed of no means to develop the property. Being afraid to broach his find to capital, he zealously guarded his secret and set to work alone. At this task the poor miner literally dug his own grave, dying of overwork in 1890, after having sunk only 50 feet and having done only 50 feet of drifting. But this was sufficient to demonstrate that he was on the vein, for he shipped several cars of rich ore; and the fact did not pass unnoticed, as will shortly appear.

In 1892 M. S. Beach, of Silverton, sold the Harrison mine to Davis & Soule, a firm of New England brokers, who



SAMPSON AND GOLD KING MINES

The Gold King Mine was discovered in 1887. In that year a Swede, by the name of Orlof Nelson, was employed as a common miner on the Sampson. This property was being developed on the vein, and, several hundred feet from the entrance, a stronger vein crossed at an acute angle. When this vein was encountered the superintendent of the Sampson pursued the deflection, believing it to be the original Sampson vein. Nelson took a different view of the situation, and, surrendering his job with the Sampson, proceeded to locate the Gold King at a point he was convinced would strike the extension of the cross-vein.

Nelson was, unfortunately, a poor miner, and was

were then west looking for mining investments. On Mr. Beach's recommendation, they engaged W. Z. Kinney as superintendent of the property. After two years of work Mr. Kinney, being unable to make favorable reports on the Harrison, Messrs. Davis & Soule discontinued the development of the mine, and, desiring to secure a good proposition on which to recoup their Harrison losses, instructed Mr. Kinney to recommend a property. This he was not prepared to do off-hand, and he accordingly determined to devote himself to obtaining definite information concerning certain properties that he believed could be obtained for a reasonable figure and that had favorable indications of de-



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

veloping into mines. Among these was the Gold King, and, upon his advice, Davis & Soule authorized him to negotiate the purchase of the property, which was legally effected in 1894, the widow of Nelson receiving in consideration the sum of \$15,000.00. This amount does not represent the tithe of the value of a single improvement on the property today, and, perhaps, not a thousandth of the value of the mine; but it was a fair and reasonable consideration at the time the deal was consummated, as the period of trial and disappointment that immediately followed amply attests.

The early development of the Gold King was fraught with dramatic vicissitudes. From 1894 until the organization of the Gold King Mining & Milling Company, in September, 1896, the most serious difficulties were encountered. The eastern proprietors advanced sums at irregular inter-

A level was run at a depth of 105 feet, and considerable cutting and drifting has been done.

The Gold King is on Bonita mountain. There is a system of rich veins, any one of which might make a mine, on the property. The Gold King No. 1 is a ten-foot vein, the Gold King and Gold King No. 2 have a width of fifteen feet each, the Red vein, crossing these, is ten feet wide, and there is, besides, a remarkably rich blanket vein, similar in form to a coal deposit, that is a bonanza in itself. A tram from the mouth of the tunnel spans Bonita gulch to the summit of Lost mountain from which point it descends to the Gold King mill at Gladstone. The cables are supported by fourteen towers, four of which are near the mine and the other ten within 2,000 feet of the mill. There is a mighty sweep of 2,100 feet, hundreds of feet above the earth, without any intermediate support. There are forty-



GOLD KING MILL AT GLADSTONE.

vals, but these were wholly inadequate, and, during these months of unproductive development work, Mr. Kinney resorted to every means within his power to keep the operations alive. Mrs. Kinney remained in Gladstone throughout the long and severe winter, offering every aid, and he often drew upon his private resources to vindicate his conviction that the Gold King was a mine. This was demonstrated from the time ore was tapped by the cross-cut tunnel started November 1, 1896. At this point the tunnel was in 478 feet, and considerable stoping was done, the upraise reaching nearly to the surface of the mountain. The tunnel was carried rapidly beyond the ore body, and at the 500-foot point a station 20x40 feet in dimension was cut. Here a 25-horsepower gasoline engine, transported in sections to the station, was installed, and a shaft was sunk in solid ore,

three buckets of a half-ton capacity each, and they make a round trip every half hour.

The American mine is situated 2,000 feet below the Gold King on Bonita mountain and is on the same system of veins that traverses the Sampson and Gold King. This property has been developed much the same as the Gold King. A tramway extends from the entrance of the tunnel to the summit of Lost mountain and parallels the Gold King tram from that crest to the mill. Another tunnel 7 feet high by 8 feet wide, is being run from the mill, at the base of Lost mountain, to cut the Gold King vein, which it will tap 6,000 feet from the entrance and 1,500 feet below the present main workings. It is expected that it will cut the I. X. L. vein 2,500 feet from the mill. This tunnel is now in about 1,200 feet and it is being rapidly driven ahead



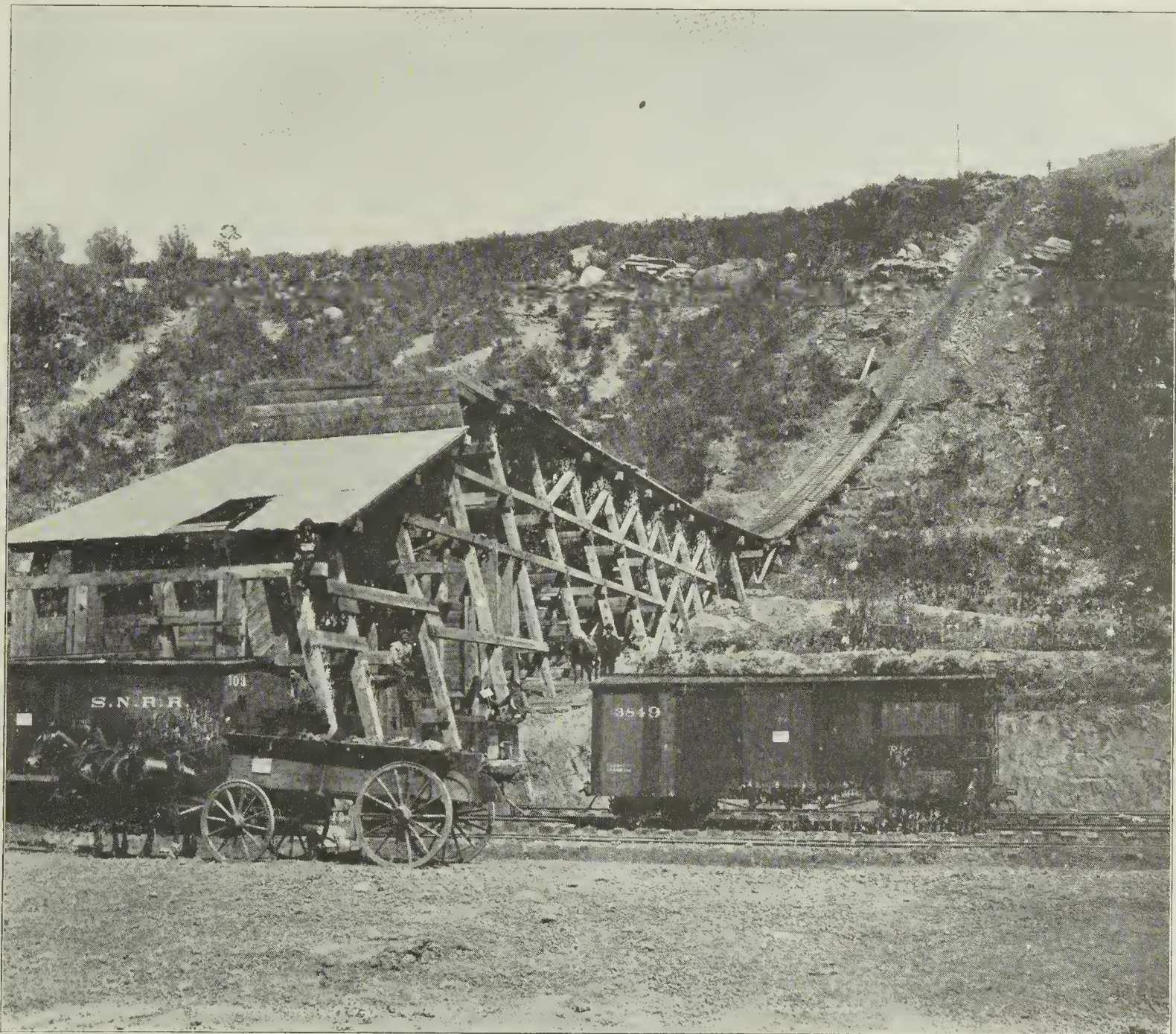
## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

by use of machine drills. The American is a large producer, and ultimately the output of both the American and Gold King will be transported to the mill through the lower tunnel, with which the upper workings will be connected by a main shaft.

The Sampson mine was discovered in 1882, and was first operated by the Southern Colorado Bismuth and Silver Mining Company. The company was reorganized as the Cement Creek Gold Mining Company in 1885, and four years later the property was sold to the Gold King. There had been 2,500 feet of work done at that time, and, under the Gold King management, the work has been carried forward with great expedition. The Sampson is an old producer and a regular shipping mine.

capacity for a period of years, and the ore reserves are being continually increased.

The Gold King Mill is situated at the base of Lost mountain, and is so constructed that the force of gravitation does half the work. It was originally a twenty-stamp plant, but it has been increased from time to time until its capacity is now quadruple what it was when built. It is a massive structure, 400 feet in length by 72 feet in depth, and there are four floors. It is equipped with the finest modern machinery throughout. The power, for the mill, the trams, the machine drills and the lighting, is furnished by a 250-horsepower, self-oiling Westinghouse engine, and a 185-horsepower compressor plant, which is entirely distinct and apart.



TIPPLE OF THE CITY COAL MINE, GOLD KING PROPERTY.

The Anglo-Saxon is located on Red mountain, about three miles below Gladstone, on Cement creek. This property is being developed through a tunnel. Fourteen cross-cuts have been run, and considerable ore has been mined. There are four main veins, varying from three to eight feet in width, and carrying gold, silver, copper and lead values ranging from \$15.00 to \$100.00 to the ton.

The Gold King Consolidated gold mines embrace thirty claims in Cement creek district. They are all patented, and represent millions in value. The average returns of all ore milled run over \$10.00 to the ton, and the ore blocked out is sufficient to run an 80-stamp mill at full ca-

The Silverton, Gladstone & Northerly Railroad is a narrow-gauge road from Silverton to Gladstone. The track is laid with 45-pound steel rails, and the rolling stock is of the first class. The road is seven miles in length, and was built to handle the Consolidated company's ore traffic, but it is now recognized as one of the best-paying passenger roads in the state for its mileage.

### CITY AND CHAMPION COAL MINES.

It is not surprising that coal was discovered in the vicinity of Durango; indeed, it would have been surprising if it had not been found. Smudges and outcroppings



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN



W. Z. KINNEY.

on the hillsides, easily visible for miles where exposed, were unmistakable evidence of coal and the location of veins, with such indications, was simple enough. Yet there were many sections that remained undeveloped for years, and there are doubtless many yet that but await the interest of capital to yield their hundreds of tons a day.

The City and Champion mines are among those that were operated in a small way years before the proper ownership and superintendence brought them into prominence. The first to amount to much was the City mine. The importance of this property dates from the time that George C. Logan took charge of the mine five years ago, and, under his direction, it has come to be not only one of the largest, but one of the most valuable as well, for its location, almost within the city limits of Durango, makes it possible to place its product on the market at current prices and at a minimum price.

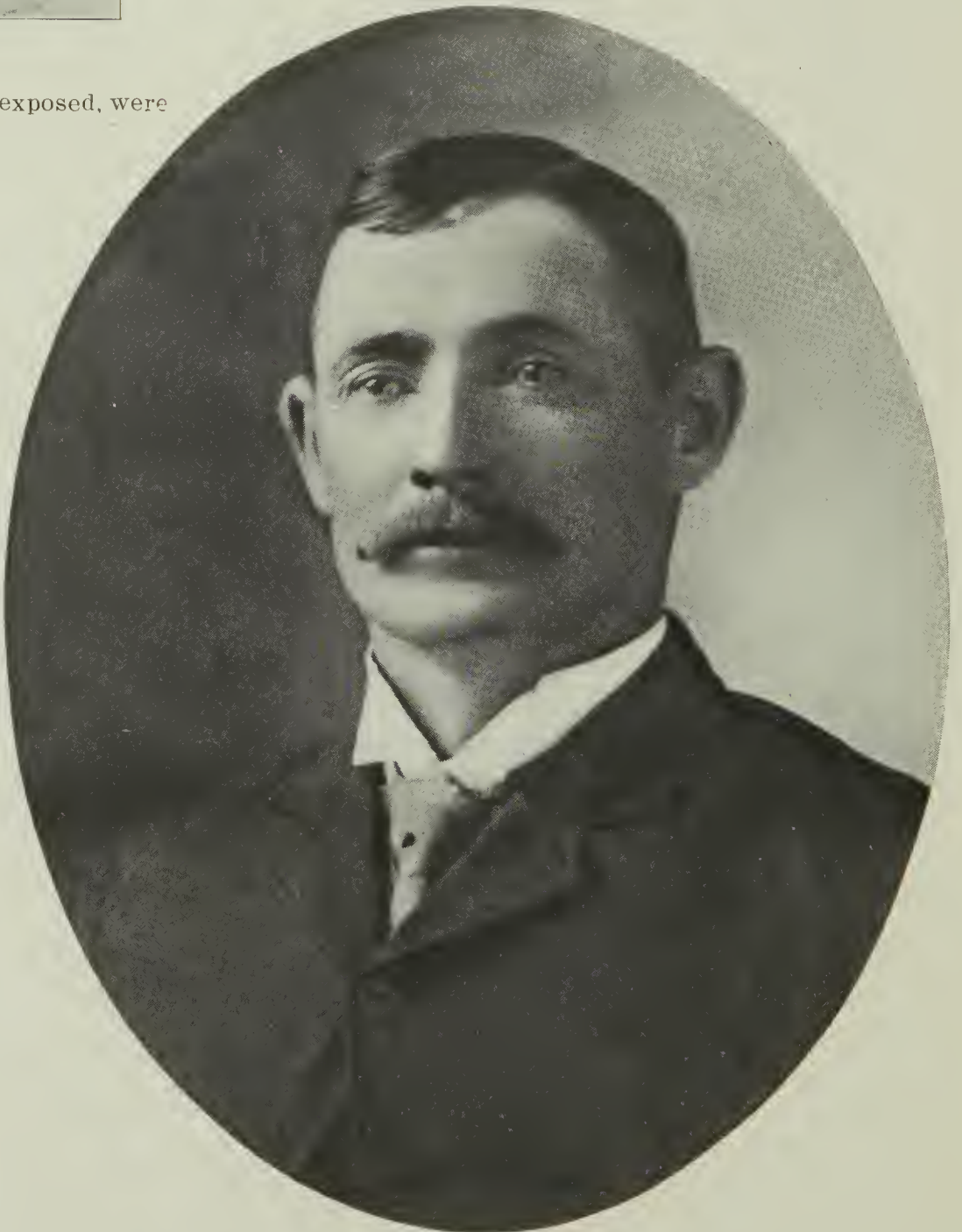
There are about 1,500 acres in the territory of the City mine, and the three principal veins carry millions of tons of coal. The mine is being developed through a flat entry that extends a half mile through the mountain, affording a continual current of air and natural ventilation. The coal deposits extend a great distance on each side of the entry, and both sides are being mined. A tramway extends from the mouth of the entry to the tippie, a distance of 1,500 feet, and coal is loaded direct from the tippie to the cars, a half-mile spur having been built from the Rio Grande tracks.

There are about 45 men employed on the

City mine, and the output is about 100 tons a day. The grade is an excellent bituminous, and City coal is in great demand all over the San Juan. It is extensively used locally for domestic and steaming purposes, and is shipped over a wide area. Cars placarded with "City Coal Mine" cards, on which are written the destination of the shipments, are always conspicuous features of the Durango railroad yards, and a reference to them shows that City coal is used largely by the mines in the Silverton district, many of which receive regular car consignments. The Gold King properties, on Cement creek, use City coal exclusively.

The Champion mine was purchased about a year and a half ago. This property, while not operated on a large scale at the time, has since developed into a very valuable mine. It is also mined through a flat entry, about half a mile in length, extending through the mountain. Its acreage is a trifle greater than that of the City mine, and the grade of coal is somewhat different. The tippie is about half a mile from the railroad, and all coal taken out has been hauled; but it is probable that a tramway will be built to connect with the railroad in the near future.

The force employed on the Champion mine is about forty. The production, slightly less than that of the City, is consumed almost entirely by the local domestic trade, though it is shipped outside to some extent. The production of this mine will be greatly increased when the facilities for transporting coal from the mine to the railroad



GEORGE C. LOGAN



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

are improved, and it may exceed that of the City mine.

Mr. Logan sold his collieries to the Rocky Mountain Coal & Fuel Company just prior to the time that corporation was absorbed by the Gold King Mines Company, and the properties are now a portion of that great company's enormous assets. He did not dispose of his entire interest, however, and when he was requested to remain in superintendence of the mines he accepted the position quite as much to protect the interest he retained as to earn

the liberal emolument offered: for it is an established axiom in mining that success depends as much upon conservative and intelligent management as upon the mine.

Mr. Logan was well known in the San Juan before becoming interested in the coal industry, having been in railroad employ for a number of years in this section. He was the plain, practical man to make a success of the City and Champion, and so long as he remains at the helm their prosperity is assured.

## BALL FOUNDRY AND MACHINE WORKS

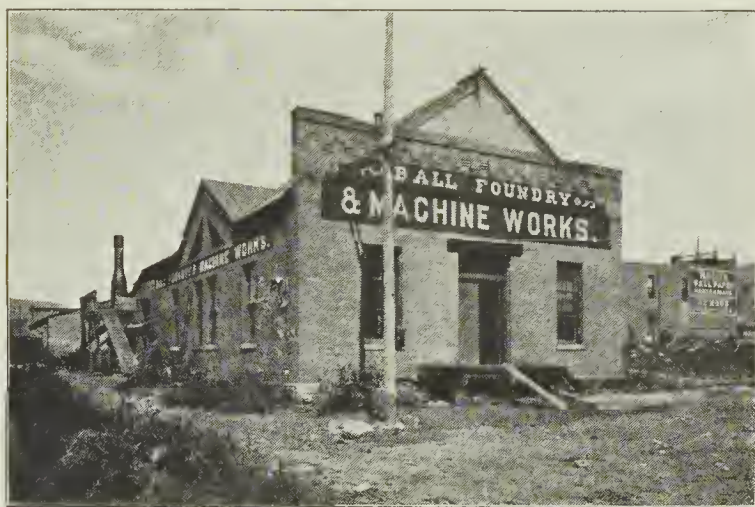
A Representative Enterprise, Durango, Colorado

An evidence of the increasing importance of Durango as the metropolis and trade center of a large portion of the San Juan is manifest in the many new enterprises that have sprung into life in the Smelter City since the beginning of the present year. While not desiring to underrate the importance of others, it may be said without invidious comparison that the Ball Foundry and Machine Works easily rank first among those established within the year.

John R. Ball, a founder and machinist of long experience and wide acquaintance in the San Juan, after a number of years in the mining districts of southwestern Colorado, chose Durango as the most favorable point for location, and, in January last, came here with a view to establishing a foundry and machine shop. The wisdom of his selection is evident in his immediate success; but his judgment was based on the fact of Durango being the center of three great industries, viz.; mining, lumbering and agriculture, in their various branches, each of which would contribute to the prosperity of the thriving city.

Mr. Ball was fortunate in securing a lease on the old electric light building, which is located directly on the railroad, and the foundations of which were originally intended for heavy machinery. As soon as the lease was signed, he ordered his plant from Chicago, and it was soon set up and in operation. As it now stands, there are ponderous lathes, planers, machine drills and smaller machine tools, driven by electric power, and the plant is in

every respect but capacity the equal of any in the state. The foundry has been more recently added, and castings of all kinds can be made now.



BALL FOUNDRY AND MACHINE WORKS.

Mr. Ball learned his trade in Holland, and has twenty-six years of experience to his credit. He employs only skilled mechanics and guarantees all work. His specialties are air drill, compressor and Corliss engine repairs, though he is prepared to execute anything in foundry or machine work, and at reasonable prices. Call or write.

## I. ZELLER

Prominent Durango Jeweler

It may be truthfully said that in no line of business is the average purchaser more dependent upon the honesty of the dealer than in the purchase of a fine jewel or watch. Not one person in twenty is competent to judge the value of a watch, excepting its external appearance, which may be entirely disproportionate to the value of its works; and the average person knows even less of precious stones. It becomes a matter of evident importance, then, that our jewelers should be men of character and unquestioned integrity.

Zeller, the jeweler, has been established in Durango since 1894, and, after seven years of business intercourse with the people of the Smelter City and of La Plata county, his name has come to be a guarantee of any article known to have come from his establishment. His stock embraces everything known to the trade usually found in a first-class jewelry store, including loose and mounted diamonds and other stones, watches, clocks, toilet

sets, silver dining services, cut glass, antiques, etc. The line of ornamental jewelry is especially full and complete, comprising the latest conceits in rings, fobs, charms, etc. Besides jewelry, the stock includes spectacles, and Mr. Zeller can furnish glasses properly suited to all variations from natural sight, having a graduate optician in his employ.

Mr. Zeller was born in Germany, but has been under the American flag since he was a child. He served his apprenticeship in Cincinnati, where he thoroughly mastered the science of horology. He was in business in Connorsville, Indiana, until 1880, in which year he came to Colorado. He first engaged in mining in the Gunnison country, but afterwards settled in Idaho Springs, where he established a jewelry business, and where he still retains mining interests. He came to Durango in 1894, and has since become known as one of the Smelter City's foremost and most prosperous merchants.



# THE GREAT SAN JUAN.

## *The Boston Coal & Fuel Company* *PERIN'S PEAK MINES.*

The Boston Coal & Fuel Company was organized in October, 1900. Shortly before the incorporation of the company George C. Franklin, who had been for some time consulting engineer of the Natalie mine, near Silverton, met George W. Brown, a Boston capitalist and large stock-

after a day on the ground, during which various of the outcroppings were inspected, a deal was made whereby the company was organized and \$25,000 advanced for development work.

But there are few mining enterprises that have not



VEIN NO. 3 -ENTRY.

A FEW HOURS' PRODUCTION.

VEIN NO. 1 - ENTRY

holder in the mine, at that time visiting the property. Mr. Franklin had filed on a quarter section of coal land back of Perin's Peak, near Durango, nearly ten years before, and had prospected the ground sufficiently to convince him that a vein of coal could be opened up with very little difficulty. Learning that Mr. Brown was in the market for a good coal proposition, he brought the matter to his attention, and,

their dark days, and The Boston Coal & Fuel Company was not an exception. In the interim that intervened between the location of the ground and the organization of the company, others had prospected the ground, ferreting about in the smudges and scratching the outcroppings, and each and all had demonstrated to their own satisfaction that there was no coal on the property. These very



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

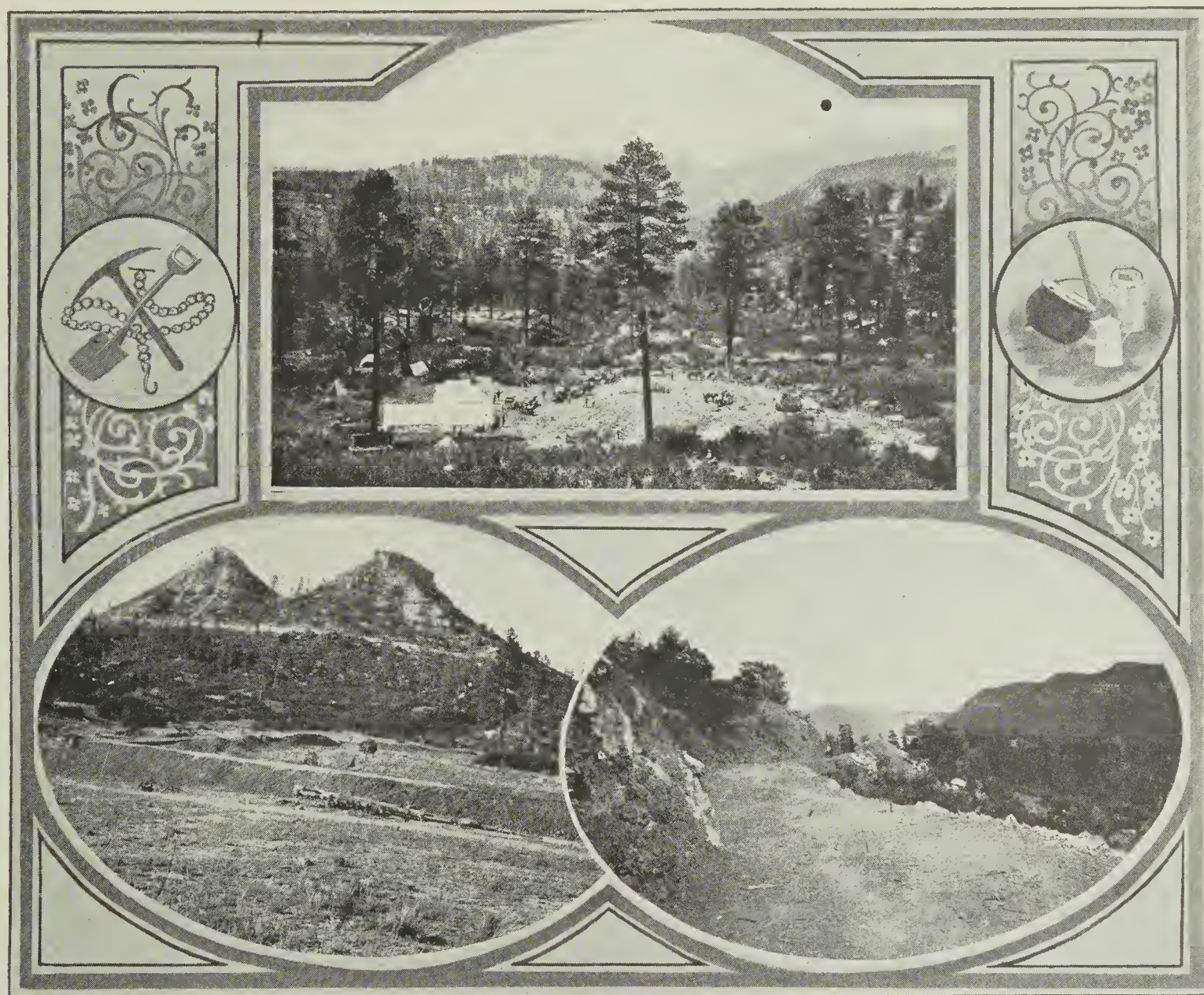
promptly wrote to the company's Boston stockholders, and their letters might have affected the the future of the enterprise very seriously, had they not been laid before Mr. Franklin, who was very thankful to learn their sources, not a few of whom were at the time enjoying the patronage of the company.

The company was seriously handicapped at first, too, owing to the isolation of the property, it being necessary to build a wagon road and haul a distance of four miles. Soon, however, so extensive a body was tapped that Mr. Franklin felt justified in advising the stockholders to build a railroad spur from the Rio Grande Southern to the mine, which he did shortly after, while east to report on a group of mines for the Exploration Syndicate of New York and London. The board acted upon his judgment, and grading was begun May 22nd., of the present year. The roadbed was completed Aug., 28th., but, owing to unavoidable delays in securing rails, the laying of steel was not begun until Nov. 1st. The road was completed three days before Thanksgiving, and was formally opened by impressive ceremonies, and a free excursion, in which nearly 500 people participated.

steel was bought for a pittance at a tax sale, and the locomotive was secured at a bargain. The total salvage to the company approximates \$20,000, and, withal, the equipment is all that might have been obtained with the cost and saving both spent under ordinary management.

The territory of the company embraces 1,600 acres of patented land, every part of which is traversed by coal veins. It is so situated as to afford natural drainage, has ample water power for an electric plant of large capacity, is densely timbered with pine, and has, besides exhaustless coal deposits, valuable quarries and fire clay banks. There are eight coal veins on the property, so far as known, and these vary from three to eight feet in thickness. Only three of these have been developed to any extent, but the outcroppings of the entire eight may be traced for miles in parallel horizontal lines.

Actual mining was begun December 12th., 1900. The first vein opened, known as Vein No. 1, is four feet in thickness. It is being developed through a flat entry, now in 1,500 feet, and a back entry, in the same distance, from which 400-foot laterals, or headings, have been turned to right and left at intervals of 50 feet. Air passages have



HAYDEN'S TWINS.

CAMP ON THE GRADE.

ALONG THE GRADE.

Mr. Franklin deserves great credit for the economy observed in the construction of the road, and W. H. Wigglesworth, the company's engineer merits no less consideration for the engineering feat he achieved. The road is a narrow gauge, 5.2 miles in length and attains the elevation at the mine with less than a 3 per cent mean grade. The grading was all done by the company, a large part of the

been cut between the entries every 60 feet, and the ventilation is perfect.

Vein No. 2, or the San Juan vein, was discovered shortly after No. 1 was opened. It is 50 feet above No. 1, and is three feet in thickness. It is being developed in the same manner as the lower vein. As the coal is of a similar grade, this vein is not being very extensively



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

mined at present, and it will very likely remain practically unscratched until the other veins are more thoroughly developed.

No. 3, though last discovered, is now the main working vein. It is a magnificent body of coal, absolutely free from bone or rust, averaging seven feet. 4 inches in thickness. This vein is being developed on the plan known as the room system. The main and back entries are now in 2,300 feet. They will be a mile and a half in length when completed, and laterals will be run at right angles from each entry at intervals of 600 feet. These will be connected by passages forming 600-foot squares, in which rooms 22x500 feet in dimension will be mined. This will leave solid pillars 20 feet in thickness between the rooms, and

and the dip is such that no hoisting power is required. Another feature is that, while there is a wealth of timber to supply every need, comparatively little timbering is necessary, the roof being a solid sandstone. Again, in the upper vein, no dead work is necessary, owing to the fact that the thickness of the vein is greater than a man's height. The entrances are laid with 16-pound rails, the lower working vein having double tracks. Tracks also enter the headings and rooms.

The company has erected the most substantial improvements on its property. The buildings are not yet all complete, but, when finished will comprise a stone office 24x32, commissary and a bunkhouse 30x40, blacksmith and machine shop 20x50, and round-



BOSTON COAL AND FUEL COMPANY'S LOCOMOTIVE, "PERIN'S PEAK."

a body of coal 100 feet through between the back of the rooms and the entry. There are over 5,000,000 tons of coal blocked out on this vein now, and it is conservatively estimated that the vein can produce 2,000 tons a day for a century without a ton of return work being done. The workings on this vein are ventilated by a furnace and stack through which a draft of 20,000 cubic feet of air passes every minute.

The perfect drainage, the immense mountain weight above the veins and the dip are a group of advantages with which Nature has endowed this property. The veins are dry and free from dangerous gasses as a result of the drainage; the coal is a bituminous of almost anthracite hardness, owing to the billions of tons of stone above;

house, the last at Franklin's Junction, where the Perins Peak road taps the Rio Grande Southern. The office and roundhouse are finished. The stone for the buildings was all quarried within a hundred yards of the mine, and is as fine a quality of white stone as there is in the state. Other improvements at the mine are the tipples. A double wooden tipple answers for Nos. 1 and 2; but a magnificent steel tipple, now in daily operation, has been erected for No. 3. Both are fitted up with screens for sorting the coal into the three grades (lump, nut and slack), and the cars are laden direct from the tipples. There are also railroad scales, of 50,000 pounds capacity, at the mine, and all shipments will be weighed on the car.

At present the production of the mine is about 200 tons



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN



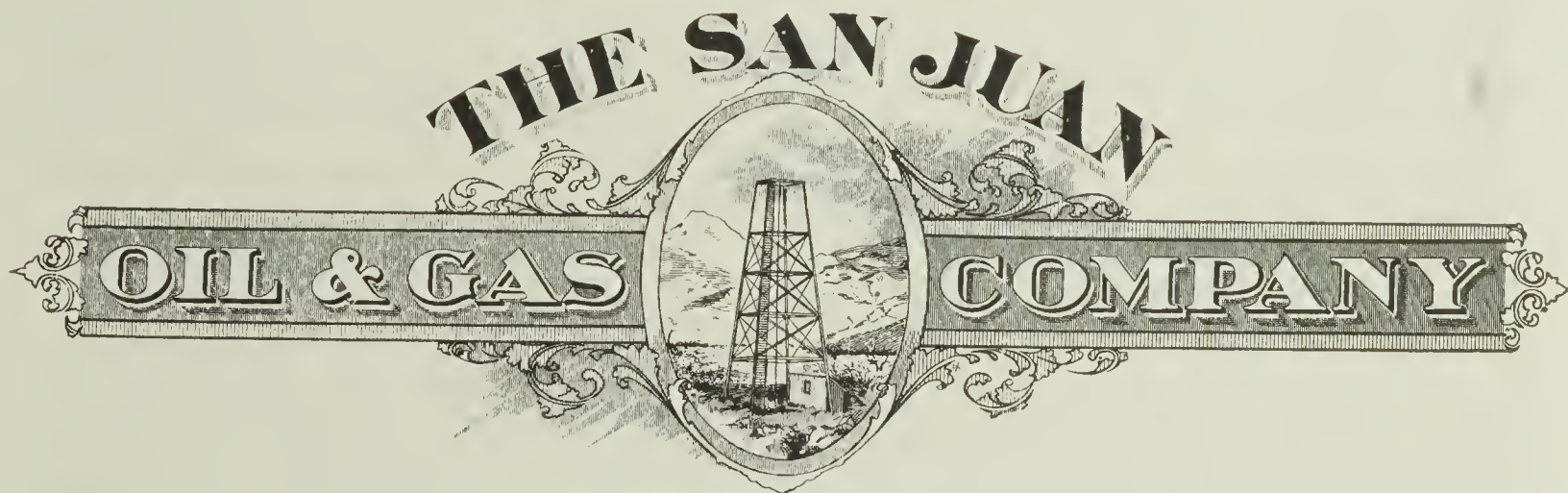
OFFICE AT THE MINE, COMPLETED SINCE ABOVE WAS TAKEN.

a day, but this will probably be increased to 2,000 tons daily within a year, as the company has a project on to put in an electric plant that will light the mine throughout and furnish power for electric undercutting machines. The

most successful promoters in Colorado, has accomplished in less than a year the establishment of a business and industrial enterprise that is destined to occupy a prominent rank among the elements of the state's development.

coal from vein No. 1 is especially adapted to domestic uses, while that from No. 3 is better suited for steaming and coking purposes. Both grades are a superior product, and wherever a ton is sold a patron is made. The company ships all over the San Juan, and has a large city patronage in Durango and other towns of southwestern Colorado, besides a considerable mine and railroad trade.

The Boston Coal & Fuel Company was organized and incorporated in Silverton, in October, 1900, with a capitalization of 500,000 shares of a par value of \$1.00 each. The officers of the company are Geo. C. Franklin, President and General Manager; Geo. W. Brown, Secretary and Treasurer; Geo. W. Franklin, Superintendent; J. Watson Hayden, Auditor; W. N. Searcy, Attorney; W. H. Wigglesworth, Engineer, and Edw. Harbaugh, Foreman—all, with the exception of Mr. Brown, of Boston, and Mr. Searcy, of Silverton, residents of Durango. As general manager of the company, Mr. Franklin, who is one of the youngest and



"Oil Is King."

There has been more written concerning oil since the discovery of the famous Beaumont gushers than in all the previous history of the oil industry; and it is fair to assume that, while nine-tenths of it has been with direct reference to the Texas fields, the measure of activity it has created in other oil sections will be entirely out of proportion to the public attention they will receive. At all events it is so in southwestern Colorado, where the oil fields of Archuleta county are being developed with an energy hitherto unknown.

The San Juan Oil & Gas Company is in this district. The promoter of the company is Mr. Geo. C. Franklin, who ten years ago encamped within an hour's walk of what may prove the richest oil basin in Colorado, and who, through the confidence of an old prospector whom chance threw into his company, learned its location. The company is his second important flotation within the past year. The officers and directors are himself, President and Manager; J. Watson Hayden, Secretary and Treasurer, and Geo. W. Brown. Mr. Brown is a prominent Boston capitalist, who is well known in the San Juan for his extensive min-

ing interests in Silverton and in the coal districts adjacent to Durango. Mr. Hayden is also a Boston man, but makes his home in Durango for the present. Mr. Franklin is too well known to require introduction. He is a mining engineer by profession, and is known in every mining camp in southwestern Colorado.

The property of the San Juan Oil & Gas Company comprises 2,160 acres in the vicinity of Pagosa Springs and Edith, 2,000 acres lying in what is known as the Via Seco oil basin, near the latter point. A. Lakes, the eminent oil expert, went into the basin last spring, and made a thorough examination of the geological formation for the company. The following resume of location, transportation facilities, formation and indications, is a digest of his comprehensive report, under date of May 27th., 1901:

The Via Seco oil basin is situated on the south bank of the San Juan and Rio Blanco rivers, at their confluence, about ten miles northwest of Edith and about sixteen miles north of Lumberton, in Archuleta county, Colorado. It is directly on the Rio Grande railway, and the new railroad, now in process of construction from Edith to Pagosa, will



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

pass near the basin. Besides this, there is an excellent wagon road from Edith into the basin.

The Via Seco basin is enclosed by abrupt rocky ridges on all sides, and varies from three to four miles in width and from four to five in length. The center is a grassy park about two miles in diameter. The rocks surrounding and underlying the basin are sandstone, shale and volcanic, basaltic dykes. The upper surface is underlaid by cretaceous shale, below which, at a moderate depth, are sandstones, followed at a greater depth by thick beds of shale

the basin is that of an anticline, such as is most sought for by oil men in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wyoming and California, oil and gas having been found, by experience, to favor such formations, the theory being that they were forced up into these arches by the compression of folding. The surrounding dykes are an advantage, as they act as dams, and they have been found to contain globules of oil, where steam caused cavities in the lava during the process of cooling. The oil found in these cavities is usually black, though, in instances, green oil has been found. The green oil is simi-



GEORGE C. FRANKLIN.

GEORGE W. BROWN.  
J. WATSON HAYDEN.

GEORGE W. FRANKLIN

and belts of sandstone. The south, or upper end of the basin, is cut by numerous parallel volcanic dykes, at intervals of several hundred feet. These dykes have a general northeasterly tendency, and descend vertically to great depth. The northern end of the basin is similarly enclosed. Steep sandstone ridges form the eastern and western walls, and complete a perfect enclosure.

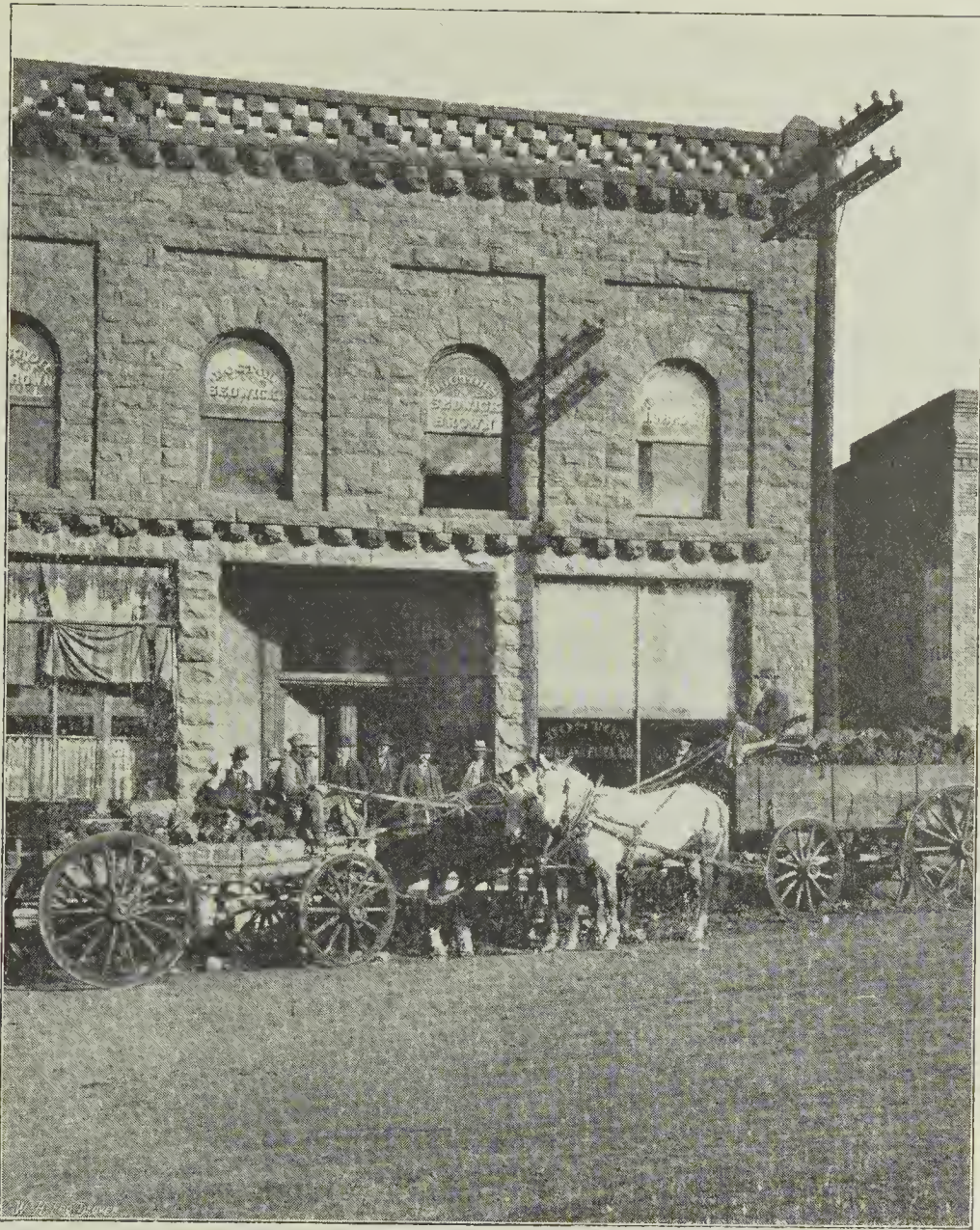
The rocks underlying the Via Seco basin belong to the cretaceous period, the same geological period and the same group and horizon as at Florence. The structure of

lar to the illuminating oil at Florence. All these oil-saturated dykes rise from a depth much greater than can be attained by boring, the indication is that considerable oil is contained in the strata through which they ascend. The presence of sulphur and gas springs in the basin is another favorable indication. The gas in these springs upon being ignited, flames up in a red-yellow flare, suggestive of carbureted hydrogen, which is considered a very good indication of oil below.

It has been demonstrated that there are three distinct



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN



DURANGO OFFICES OF BOSTON COAL & FUEL CO. AND SAN JUAN OIL & GAS CO.

Mines, and his testimony should be of exceptional value.

The San Juan Oil & Gas Company will install a complete plant with the purpose of carrying out the advice of Mr. Lakes, and is prepared to give the district a thorough test. The company does not lack for funds, and it is believed that not many months will elapse before the Via Seco basin will be heralded to the world as the richest oil region in Colorado. This company is not the only one that is going ahead in the vicinity. The Wolcott & Moffatt interests lie close to the company's property, and are being rapidly developed. There is one thing certain, if the Archuleta oil fields do not "pan out," to borrow an expression from mining parlance, it will not be for want of thorough and systematic prospecting, for the companies operating in the district represent unlimited capital, and are composed of men who do not inaugurate projects without seeing them through.

Addenda: Very recently oil has been struck in the vicinity of Pagosa Springs, and an era of great activity and excitement prevails. In all probability other strikes will be made as a result of this encouragement, for many companies that have heretofore been quietly awaiting developments are now operating with energy. Hundreds of oil men now have their attention directed to the Archuleta oil fields and thousands of dollars are daily coming into the district for the purchase of territory and the development of properties. The ere-while health and pleasure resort is an infant Beaumont, and no one may tell what day will give its

oil zones in Archuleta county. The uppermost of these is known as the Navajo, the next below as the Pagosa and lowest as the Blanca. These horizons are approximately a thousand feet apart. It is believed that these oil sands will be encountered in the Via Seco basin; and Mr. Lakes expresses it as his opinion that the Navajo, which corresponds to the oil horizon at Florence, will be tapped within the first 500 feet. He gives the following as his opinion regarding the formations that will be encountered in boring.—100 to 200 feet of shale, followed by 100 or 150 feet of sandstone, at the base of which is the Navajo oil sand; then 1,000 feet, more or less, of shale, under which lies the Pagosa quartzite, 200 to 300 feet thick, carrying oil; another 1,000 feet of shale and sandstone, and then the Blanca oil sand.

Mr. Lakes says in his report that a well 2,500 or 3,000 feet in depth should penetrate all these oil sands, and that oil is likely to be struck within the first 500 feet. He considers the Via Seco one of the most promising localities in the district, and has indicated the points at which he advises wells to be sunk.

Mr. Lakes was formerly professor of geology in the Colorado State School of

name to the world. As much may be expected of the portion of the district about Edith, also, for this wonderful country apparently has no limit to possibility in the matter of natural resources, and the indications are general.



DURANGO IN WINTER, A GOOD ARGUMENT FOR THE COAL MAN.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### THE HYDE EXPLORING EXPEDITION

In 1898, B. T. B. Hyde and F. E. Hyde, Jr., wealthy manufacturers of New York City, organized and outfitted an expedition to explore the ruins of a civilization that flourished on the western hemisphere centuries before the time of Cabot or Columbus. Evidences of an early race, vastly superior in intellect to the aborigine, have been unearthed at various points all over this continent, but nowhere has the study of this prehistoric race been more productive of interesting and positive knowledge than in the arid southwest. Here, sheltered by Nature's protecting walls, where the dry atmosphere of desert lands sultrs through eternities, time-fallen habitations, only the ages could destroy, preserve mute record of a dead past, older than the histories of the world.

These decayed ruins are believed by many to have once been inhabited by the ancient Aztecs, and the history of their origin has been a mooted question for scientists to ponder. In the opinion of those who have devoted the closest study and most diligent research to the problem, the commonly accepted theory is erroneous. The most probable theory now advanced is based on a series of deductions derived from discoveries, legends and existing similarities between the customs of tribes now living and those of the extinct race evident in the data obtained from exploration.

There is much of poetic as well as scientific and historic interest in the developments of this engaging study. According to a Navajo tradition, the ancestors of that tribe swept down from the north to the warmer climes of the south 900 years ago. They found here a peaceable, industrious people, and, being a savage, warlike tribe, engaged in a war of extermination, killing the men and appropriating the women, a custom common to barbarians of all times and in all quarters of the earth. Where men were slain upon the field of battle their bodies were thrown into the streams, where, tradition has it, they were transformed into fish, and to this day no Navajo will eat fish of any description. Another superstition of this interesting tribe is that it is fatal to enter a house where a death has occurred, and each year there are scores of "hogans" (Indian habitations) deserted for this reason. This accounts for the perfect preservation of the communal houses of the Cliff Dwellers, where, in many instances, the contents have lain unmolested from the date of these primeval massacres until the present time, lugubrious skeletons lying where they fell hundreds, perhaps thousands of years ago, to tell of surprise, murder and flight.

This ancient race was known as the "Tiguas," which in the Navajo tongue, means "men who dwell in houses." Many of these, who constructed their houses in the clefts of cliffs had impregnable fortresses only treachery could render accessible to the enemy. Some were betrayed, as exploration has demonstrated; but there are others that indicate voluntary desertion, and it is a reasonable venture that the descendants of these early Tiguas who escaped the ruthless Navajo still survive, if not in the purity of their ancestral progenitors, at least with great similarities, in the Pueblos, and in lesser degree in the Navajos. There is a similarity, more noticeable than exists among most tribes, between the two, now the only self-supporting Indians in the west, and it is not improbable that the Navajo learned his lessons of industry from the infusion of ancient Tigua blood. It is interesting, too, to note that the significance of the Spanish word "Pueblo," meaning town, corresponds, in its application to the Pueblo tribe,

to the significance of the Navajo word "Tigua," as applied to this old race.

This theory is strengthened by Pueblo traditions and by other cognate points. For instance, in the ruins of the Cliff Dwellers thus far explored, a council chamber, or "estufa," as the Navajos call it, has been found, and now anyone familiar with the excavations can tell with absolute precision the point at which to dig for this portion of a dwelling, so little variation was there in the rude ideas of these early architects. In the "estufas" also were bur-



NAVAJO SQUAW WEAVING BLANKETS.

ied the family treasures. Corresponding to the family "estufa" was the tribal "estufa" and treasury, where the public jewels were kept and the general councils held. Many of these have been opened of recent years and they have contributed as much to science as anything that has been exhumed from these ruins. The Navajos and Pueblos also have their estufas, and, so far as known, no other tribe closely resembles them in this respect.

Another point which would indicate a blood tie existing between these Indians of the southwest and the "Tiguas" who inhabited the old cliff dwellings is evident in the recent discovery by the Hydes, of a jeweled frog in one of the "estufas" of Pueblo Bonita. The Navajos and Pueblos had handed down from generation to generation the tradition of a wonderful jeweled frog, and the fact that it has been discovered in the ruins of this people, whom scientists have endeavored to identify, establishes at least one point of coincidence in the legendary annals of the tribes named and what would naturally attach to the traditions of the race in question. Whether or not there is more than one "jeweled frog" is not known; but years of quest have produced but the one, and it is a plausible conclusion that but one exists.

Still another analogy between the Pueblo of today and the "Tigua" of old is to be found in the fact that a portion of the survivors of the old race, whose strongholds were not impregnable, paid an immunity or indemnity to the Navajos, and it is well known that the Pueblos have paid an annual tribute to the same tribe until within a



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

very recent date, if, indeed, not to the present time.

With the warp and woof of knowledge and guesswork furnished by tradition, discovery and reason, mankind may never arrive at anything more definite than theory concerning this great prehistoric race; but, with a framework of the absolute, building with the vague will continue an interesting and instructive process. Of course what degree of accuracy has clung to tribal tradition through centuries of oral transmission cannot be definitely determined; and in calling into requisition such questionable records scientists have availed themselves of a beggar's choice.

To the ruins of this nameless people came the expedition of the Hydes. Going first to Mancos, the nearest point to what were at that time the most widely known cliff dwellings in the world, they secured the assistance and co-operation of Richard Wetherill, who was without question the best informed man in America on the subject of what are to this day known as the "Aztec" ruins. They found much of interest and value in the lofty, mural habitations of Mesa Verde, but little to add to the score of scientific lore already accumulated, and becoming dissatisfied, suspended work for several months. During the interim the Hydes returned east, and Mr. Wetherill, who had heard much from the Indians concerning extensive ruins to the south, in New Mexico and Arizona, made a tour of investigation. At Pueblo Bonita, on the Chaco river, he found a veritable wilderness of ruins, undoubtedly the erstwhile metropolis and capital of the "Tiguas." When the Hydes returned to Mancos, he reported his rich find, and operations were transferred to the Canon of the Chaco, where exploration was prosecuted with great vigor.

It has been charged by the ungenerous that the expedition of the Hydes was inaugurated for the purpose of private gain, and, had such been the case, the fair-minded must fail to see just ground for criticism; but the imputation was founded on falsehood or misinformation, and, in either event, was a gross injustice to the men who gave of their time and fortune to the advancement of science. Everything of interest these silent tombs have so far yielded has been presented, without consideration of any kind whatever, to the American Museum of Natural History, of New York City, and the science of archaeology has been vastly enriched through these priceless gratuities.

These unwarranted flings probably originated in the fact that the Hydes established a trading post at Pueblo Bonita, where they dealt with the Indians, in instances exchanging merchandise for curios and blankets which were sold to merchants and visiting whites. But the mercantile element was the outgrowth of labor difficulties and was a clever means devised by Mr. Wetherill to obviate trouble of this nature. The employes of the expedition were mostly Navajos, and, after pay day great numbers would invariably take to the trails for the trading posts, where they purchased various kinds of merchandise. This involved an absence of several days in any case, and in many instances they did not return to work at all. The Hydes had placed a considerable sum of money with Mr. Wetherill to meet the season's pay days and other expenses, and, to put a stop to absence and desertion, he went to Albuquerque and bought a stock of goods selected especially for the Indian trade. Subsequent events proved his judgment sound, for there was an end of the labor trouble; but it did more. The trade was not confined to the Indians on the pay-roll. Hundreds of others traded with the new post, and the mercantile department was destined to be henceforth a very important factor of the Expedition. Other posts were established from time to

time, and there are now ten of them, located at Pueblo Bonita, Ojo Alamo, Tiz Na Tzin, Two Greyhills, Pintada, Raton Springs, Blanco, Thoreau, Largo and Farmington. The frontier store on the Chaco, at Pueblo Bonita (Putnam P. O.), has been headquarters, as it was the source of this great system of posts. Thoreau is the only post on a railroad, and at that point extensive warehouses have been built. Everything for the other posts is hauled by freighters either from Thoreau or Durango, though fully 90 per cent is shipped over the Santa Fe in car lots, via the former point. The Durango shipments are principally for Farmington, which is only 60 miles from the Smelter City, while it is twice that distance from the Expedition's supply depot at Thoreau.

Large stocks of general merchandise are carried by the Chaco, Thoreau and Largo stores, but it is in Farmington that the largest stock is carried. Here the Expedition is in the midst of a rich agricultural and fruit section, and has three stores, a bank, a warehouse and a steam fruit evaporator plant. The buildings are all new and substantial and are owned by the Hydes. The dry goods, clothing and grocery departments occupy a fine brick structure on the principal business corner of the city, and are stocked from floor to ceiling with everything in those lines salable in this district. The bank and hardware store are located in another brick building three doors west. The former was established August 1st of the present year and has for patrons and depositors the principal merchants and ranchers who, until a few months ago, suffered the inconvenience of transacting all their business through distant banks. In the hardware department, everything in the way of shelf hardware, tinware, cutlery, fire arms, and ammunition is carried, supplemented by tons of Navajo blankets, a great variety of Indian curios, ornaments and other goods, a complete line of crockery and household goods, and the thousand and one unclassified articles of commerce belonging to this branch of trade. Farm implements and orchard and garden tools are also carried. The harness and saddlery shop occupies the adjoining building, and everything offered for sale, with the exception of bits, spurs, whips and robes, is home and hand made. A specialty is made of heavy harness, which is in great demand by ranchers, though great numbers of saddles are turned out, the cheaper goods going to the Indian traders who sell them on the reservation.

Besides the features of the Expedition's business already noted, it owns 10,000 head of stock, of which 7,000 head are sheep, the balance being divided between horses and cattle at about the ratio of 1 to 10. These range from Farmington to the Zuni mountains and are in excellent condition. A herd of cattle is kept at Fruitland where beeves are fattened for the markets of southwestern Colorado and northern New Mexico, from Silverton to Gallup.

More than a hundred men are employed in the various departments of the Hyde Exploring Expedition, and the aggregate business makes the enterprise one of the largest not alone of the territory, but of the entire southwest. The Farmington branch was established in January of the present year, when Mr. Wetherill purchased the two principal stores for the Hydes. The business was placed in charge of Mr. Geo. H. Browne in April, and the local branch has since been under his personal management. Mr. Browne was especially fitted for this responsible position, having been for a number of years manager of the large wholesale grocery establishment of L. B. Putney, of Albuquerque, in which capacity he had dealt extensively with Mr. Wetherill and the Hydes since the founding of the initial post at Pueblo Bonita.



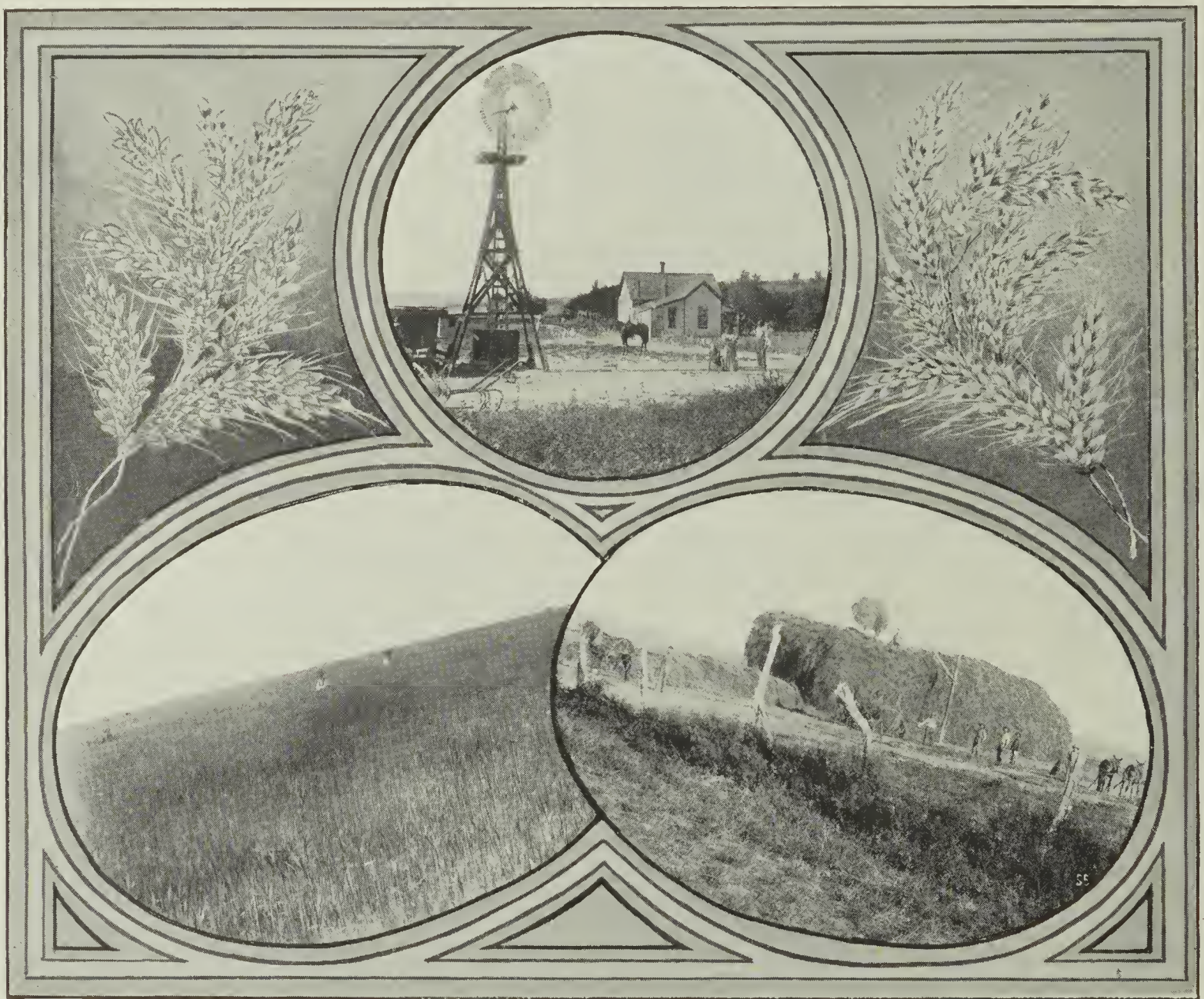
## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### DAVE LEWIS

"The Alfalfa King of the La Plata"

In the spring of 1898 Dave Lewis bought 100 acres of land two miles south of La Plata postoffice, and eighteen miles from Farmington. He organized the Revenue Ranch and Water Co., named after the Revenue Tunnel, where he had formerly worked, and backed by the capital of stockholders in that great company. From time to time other tracts were purchased and the ditches already constructed were augmented by others until the 4,000 acres now under the control of Mr. Lewis were watered by an extensive ditch system, giving an aggregate of thirty miles of main ditches on the property. There are ten ranches, each with dwellings and barns. About 1,300 acres belongs

\$5,000.00. Besides these there are 6,000 head of sheep, from which the wool will bring \$2,000.00, and 3,000 lambs which will market for \$3,000.00. By footing up these amounts it will be seen that the aggregate approximates \$40,000.00. The yield of alfalfa for the three crops harvested this year shows an average of six tons to the acre, and in instances as high as seven and one-half tons was cut. In some of the fields the wheat yield exceeded 50 bushels to the acre, and that of corn was even greater. The fruit gathered was perfect in flavor and form, large and wormless. To add emphasis to the last assertion, it is sufficient to state that Mr. Lewis offered a \$10 reward for



BREAST DEEP IN WHEAT.

MR. LEWIS' RESIDENCE.

STACKING ALFALFA.

to Mr. Lewis in partnership with E. A. Krisher, while a tract of 1,500 is owned by the company, and one of 1,200 acres owned partially by the company and in part by Messrs. Lewis & Krisher. Besides this there is 8,000 acres of range under lease, which will be bought in the near future.

The soil, rich and deep in all sections, is adapted to every variety of orchard, garden and ranch product. This year the alfalfa crop ran over 4,000 tons, representing a minimum valuation of \$20,000.00. The fruit yield sold for \$5,000; the corn crop is valued at \$1,500.00; while the wheat, barley and oats, are worth at present, not less than

any worm found in his fruit at the recent fair, and the same offer applies to his entire crop. This is probably the highest reward ever offered for the apprehension, capture and conviction of a worm; and to date no clew has been reported.

Messrs. Lewis & Krisher own five of the above ranches, which they rent on shares, giving their lessees half of all they harvest, and furnishing implements, tools, seeds, land and improvements. This is liberal and insures a good living to any industrious and intelligent rancher who rents of them; but one instance in this connection will demonstrate the difference between the productiveness of a ranch under



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

good and poor management. At about the time Mr. Lewis came into the La Plata country, a man paid \$1,200 for a 160-acre tract. The following year he condemned the La Plata and sold his place to Lewis & Co. for \$800.00. The ranch paid for itself the first season, and this year the rental alone paid \$1,500.00, which was but half the actual yield.

Mr. Lewis has achieved everything by labor. There has not been a day in the three years he has ranched on the La Plata that he has not devoted himself to toil; yet he is

never too busily engaged to meet strangers with cordial and hospitable courtesy. The pride of his heart is his family; after them his ranch. Mrs. Lewis is matron of the domestic affairs of the ranch and is a true helpmate. The two sons, Edward and Albert, respectively, 3 and 1½ years of age, are bouncing healthy boys, and, reared in the school of industry their father's ranch will afford, will grow up to be strong Americans in whatever calling, professional or industrial, they are fitted to pursue.

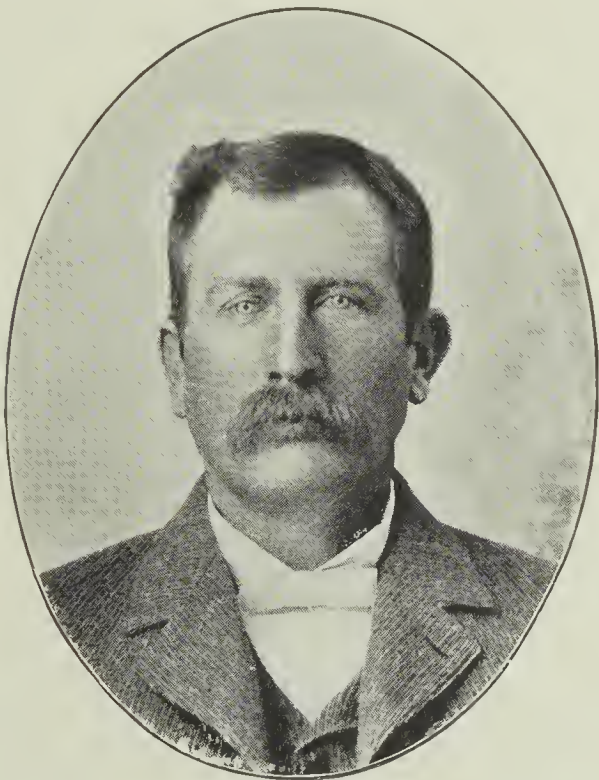
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## THE GRAND HOTEL AND LIVERY

George B. Allen, Proprietor

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One of the many pleasant surprises that greet the visitor and stranger to Farmington is the excellence of accommodations afforded by the town's leading hostelry. There is but one place for the transient to stop, and that is at the



GEORGE B. ALLEN.

Grand Hotel. George B. Allen, proprietor of the Grand, has recognized in the absence of competition an opportunity to conduct a good house at moderate prices, and he has built a reputation that will keep out competitors.

The Grand is a substantial brick building containing about 20 guest rooms, neatly and comfortably furnished. The floors are laid with Navajo blankets, the walls are handsomely papered and the bedsteads are of combination iron and brass. There are no inside or dark rooms, each and all being light and well ventilated. A veranda extends the full length of the building on the north and for 20 feet or more on the east. The dining room opens off the parlor and communicates directly with the kitchen. The best the markets afford supply the culinary department, and with the choicest meats, fruits and vegetables grown at its door the Grand has only to secure competent cooks to make the cuisine par excellent. The water used is drawn from the Animas river, but is filtered into a cistern from which it is pumped for domestic uses.

Mr. Allen is also proprietor of the Grand Livery Stables, and is just erecting a fine new barn 50x100 feet in dimension, which, when completed, will be the finest building for livery purposes in the entire San Juan. It will be constructed of brick and the best of materials will be used throughout. The ground floor will be divided into a space 32x50 feet, for vehicles and harness, another 18x50 feet, for office and bedrooms, and a stable, 50x50 feet, containing 60 regular and six box stalls. Overhead will be a lodge room 32x50 feet, with two ante-rooms and stairway and hall occupying 18x50, back of which will be a hay mow and granary 50x50 feet. Chutes will connect lifts with stalls and the building will be modern in every respect. The old barn will be used as an auxiliary stable and the corral will be cut up into feeding pens. Mr. Allen keeps about 20 fine roadsters and saddlers for livery purposes, and is enlarging the premises for the accommodation of boarders.

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## GEORGE E. ALLEN'S RANCH

Farmington District

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Farmington orchard, garden and farm products are rapidly coming to be recognized as the finest produced in the southwest. This is primarily due to favorable conditions of climate and soil, but an equally important element is the farmer himself. The farmers of this country are industrious and progressive, and produce the best of which their ground is capable.

Among the most advanced ranchers of the Farmington district is Geo. E. Allen. His ranch of 120 acres lies about two miles east of Farmington, on the mesa dividing the Animas and San Juan rivers. One hundred acres are under cultivation, of which nearly ninety acres are devoted to alfalfa, corn, pumpkins and other farm products to which the land is particularly adapted. The orchard and vine-

yard occupy ten acres, and contain 50 varieties of peaches, 24 of apples, 20 of pears, 7 of plums, 4 of prunes, 2 of apricots, 2 of nectarines and 21 of grapes. One acre is given to garden space, and all kinds of vegetables are raised in the greatest perfection.

Mr. Allen had a fine exhibit at the Farmington and Durango fairs both this and last year, and the premiums he was awarded, in view of the excellence of competing exhibits, were testimonials of the highest merit. Especially is this true with respect to evaporated fruits. Mr. Allen built the first evaporator put into successful operation in the territory, and his product has no peer anywhere. He employs the celebrated tower process, and evaporates only selected fruit, all of which is pared before being put in



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

the dryer. After coming from the bleacher the fruit is as clear and flexible as it is possible for it to be made. Of course the additional expense in preparing the fruit means a higher price in the market, but it also means practically no competition in its class, and Mr. Allen's demands always exceed his ability to supply. He erected his evaporator for handling his own fruits only, and its capacity of 300 pounds of evaporated fruit daily, which is the equivalent of 1,500 pounds green, enables him to handle his immense crop with comparatively little difficulty.

Mr. Allen sold \$3,800.00 worth of orchard, garden and ranch products last year, which is nearly \$40.00 to the acre for ground under cultivation; but this is not surprising to anyone who visits his place. The orchard bears so heavily that it is impossible to prevent a number of breakages each

season, but this prodigality of nature has not been paid for in grossness. The texture and flavor surpass, if possible, the beautiful contour and coloring of the fruit.

The Allen country house is one of the finest in this section. It is a substantial brick, and is of generous dimensions. The barn also bears the unmistakable stamp of prosperity, and the stock, which is divided between horses and cattle, is of standard breed throughout.

Mr. Allen is well known all over northern Colorado, and commands the esteem of all who know him. By putting into effect his progressive ideas he is each year improving his ranch and contributing in a substantial measure to the growth and prosperity of Farmington and the surrounding country. People commonly speak of bonanza mines. Mr. Allen has a bonanza ranch.

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### DR. A. ROSENTHAL

Farmington, New Mexico

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Dr. A. Rosenthal hails from the great metropolis, where he was reared and educated. He received his medical and surgical education at Columbia College, and, after leaving that distinguished seat of learning, devoted a year to the practice of his profession in Charity Hospital, New York City.

During his hospital practice the doctor contracted pulmonary tuberculosis, induced by the unavoidable exposure to which he was subjected during his attendance upon a patient some blocks distant from the hospital. The disease developed rapidly and he soon recognized the necessity of a change of climate if he would regain his health. Accordingly, he came west about ten years ago,

in hope that the dry and rarefied atmosphere of the higher altitudes would restore him.

When the doctor came to Farmington, the medical judiciary sentenced him to death within two weeks; but the doctor appealed his case to the balmy climate of the San Juan and the verdict was reversed and the sentence annulled. He gained steadily, and today, if not in vigorous health, at least regards his recovery complete.

Dr. Rosenthal was soon enabled to resume the practice of his profession, and he wisely determined to make the great natural sanitarium to which he owes his health his future abode. His offices are in Farmington and his residence is one of the handsome country homes.

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### "DICK" SIMPSON

Indian Trader, Canon Gallejos

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The old road from Colorado to Arizona, via Canon Gallejos, is one of the historic thoroughfares of the southwest, and the watering place at the canon has been the camping ground of Indians and whites traversing the route since it was first traveled. At this point, seventeen miles south of Farmington and eight miles from the reservation, R. T. F. Simpson, known throughout northern New Mexico and southern Colorado as "Dick" Simpson, established an Indian trading post five years ago, and has since dealt with the Navajos and with whites en route between Gallup and Durango.

Mr. Simpson is an Englishman by birth, but has been ten years in the United States and is a naturalized American citizen. With the spirit of most Englishmen making America their adopted home, he left behind the scenes of older civilization and took up his abode in the west. He settled first in Albuquerque, and it was from there that he came to the San Juan. He was located at Olio for several years after leaving Albuquerque, and, on going to Canon Gallejos five years ago, filed on a quarter section of ranch land. This is still government land, but his title is duly protected and he will probably sink an artesian well in the near future to secure water for the cultivation of the tract.

It would not be a complete surprise, however, if he should strike oil in sinking, for there are indications of petroleum.

Mr. Simpson's principal trade is with the Navajos from whom he buys skins and blankets, and who in turn buy general merchandise of him. This tribe is the only one now not pensioned by the government, and is self-sustaining. The chief source of livelihood is the weaving of blankets and stock raising, and the old system of barter has given place to money trading. Mr. Simpson pays cash for everything, and receives cash in return. He is one of the largest buyers of Navajo blankets in the territory and supplies the merchants of Durango and other localities. His intimate acquaintance with the Indians and long experience in handling their famous blankets has made him a connoisseur on this article of commerce and there is no better judge of Navajo blankets in the southwest than he.

Mr. Simpson carries a general line of dry goods, groceries and hardware, and has excellent accommodations for people shopping at Canon Gallejos. He is a hearty, cordial, hale-fellow-well-met western man, and is as popular as he is prominent. His acquaintance extends all over the San Juan of New Mexico and Colorado, and there is no one who knows him but has a good word for "Dick" Simpson.





## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### ISAAC CHERRY

Successor to F. H. Young

Isaac Cherry has been in the San Juan almost since Durango was a city of tents. He first saw the Smelter City April 26th., 1881, and he is one of the pioneers who pinned his faith unflinchingly to the future of Durango. He was reared to the harness and saddlery trade, and has been connected with that calling ever since he has been in the San Juan.

Mr. Cherry worked nearly twenty years for F. H. Young, whom he succeeded about three years ago, and many of the articles of manufacture for which Mr. Young built up a name and reputation were the product of Mr. Cherry's own hands. While working at the bench, Mr. Cherry met patrons of the store from all over the San Juan, and while every article sold bore the name of Young, he became no less well known than the proprietor himself.

Consequently, when Mr. Cherry bought out his former employer, he not only began business with an established

trade, but with a reputation as well. The heavy harness and stock saddles, for which he had earned a fame in the mining camps and on the ranges of southwestern Colorado and northern New Mexico, continued its demand, and the name of Cherry stamped upon an article of leather became known as a guarantee of excellence.

Isaac Cherry was born in New Jersey, fifty-four years ago. He came to Colorado in 1879, settling in Pueblo, where he worked at his trade. As above stated, he was a pioneer to the San Juan, having come to Durango in 1881. Mr. Cherry's store here is 85x25 feet in dimension, and contains everything in the way of saddlery, harness and horse goods. His store is headquarters for Navajo blankets, and he carries a large and well selected stock. He employs two men, and his shop is modern in equipment. His patrons come from the ranges and the mining and agricultural districts all over the San Juan. His city trade is also very large.

### CHARLES NAEGELIN

Blacksmith and Wagon Maker

The San Juan of Colorado is not so old but that very many of its pioneers are yet in the prime of a vigorous manhood, and not a small percentage of them are in active



CHARLES NAEGELIN.

business pursuits, witness Charles Naegelin, who came to Animas City before Durango was even platted, and who is

now one of the city's industrious and prosperous blacksmiths and wagon makers.

Mr. Naegelin is a native of Missouri, having been born near the town of Herman, in 1853. He learned his trade in his native county, and when, in 1874, he came to Colorado, there was not a better ferrier in the state than he. He secured employment as an iron and wood worker in one of the largest shops in Pueblo, but, soon tiring of employment, went to Del Norte and started a shop on his own account. From Del Norte he went to Parrot City, in '76, and the following year to Animas City. He had shops in each of these places, and, in 1881, when Durango was laid out, he removed to his present location.

Mr. Naegelin's Durango shop is well known all over La Plata county. It has been in the same location, near the upper wagon bridge, for twenty years. There are two forges, a machine drill, grind stone, emery wheel, etc., operated by steam power, as well as everything required for wood working. Mr. Naegelin makes a specialty of shoeing and plow work, though he does general blacksmithing in all its branches and manufactures all kinds of wagons.

Mr. Naegelin owns his shop and the ground on which it stands. By untiring industry and strict integrity he has earned a reputation that makes him known throughout the county, and his workmanship has brought him a patronage that no agency will divert so long as his shop is open for business. We can imagine such a type as Mr. Naegelin suggesting the theme Goldsmith immortalized in the poem entitled "The Village Blacksmith."

### S. L. MOENCH

Boots and Shoes

The United States leads the world in the manufacture of boots and shoes, and the store owned and conducted by S. L. Moench, of Durango, is the leader in its line in La Plata county. This is true both as to the amount of goods carried in stock and their quality, for

the line of first class goods carried in stock is at all seasons extensive, and shoddy or inferior goods are not allowed a place on the shelves of the store.

Mr. Moench's store is justly counted one of the most popular mercantile establishments in the Smelter



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

City. The store was opened to patronage a little over two years ago, and is the only exclusive boot and shoe store in Durango. Mr. Moench, being amply supplied with capital, buys direct from manufacturers in quantities, and controls the sale, in this section, of the product of some of the most celebrated factories on the continent.

The stock consists of a full and complete line of men's, women's and children's boots and shoes, suited to every condition of life. For the working man, there is a large assortment of the best heavy goods on the market, while, for the man of business, lighter grades of footwear are carried in a variety of brands and prices.

For women and children, everything from the street boot to the finest house slippers is carried. A specialty is made of children's school shoes, and these are carried in all sizes. The general stock is supplemented by a line of rubber goods for rainy and slushy weather. A cobbler is employed, and a repair shop is maintained in connection, where half-soling and general repairs are done.

S. L. Moench is a native of Illinois, but came to Colorado from McCook, Nebraska, where he was for ten years engaged in railroading. He came to Durango in 1899, and opened his store June 1st. of that year. He is an able business man and valued citizen.

## FRED STEINEGER

A Pioneer of the San Juan

Fred Steineger has been twenty-eight years in the San Juan. Born in Switzerland, in 1841, he left his native land



FRED STEINEGER.

for America when twenty-four years of age. He was not a pauper immigrant, who fled Europe to avail himself of the advantages our great undeveloped republic held out to

the lowly of the old world; but came with money to invest and with energy to assist in the upbuilding of our country, and, with varying success, he has shared in the distinction that will ever attach to hardy pioneers of a new domain.

He first engaged in the harness and saddlery business in Missouri; but it was from Kansas that he came to Colorado. Disposing of his interests in the Sunflower state, he came to the San Juan in 1873. He devoted years to prospecting and mining operations. He was among the first in Silverton, where he located several properties that have since become famous, and built the first house above timber line in San Juan county.

Mr. Steineger started the first stage line in this section, and made his headquarters at Animas City, long before Durango was even dreamed of; and, after the Smelter City was platted, and it became evident that the new townsite would prosper, he purchased the property he still owns and erected substantial stables, putting in a first-class livery stock. He has since devoted himself to stock raising and to conducting his livery establishment which he still maintains.

A glance at Mr. Steineger's portrait, herewith reproduced, evidences the fact that his sixty years of life, nearly half of which have been spent on the frontier, have not dealt harshly with him. He is a man of hearty and cordial manner, and one who, in days now gone, must have contributed to cheer and good spirits in camp, regardless of hardships or misfortunes.

## C. O. D. STEAM LAUNDRY

Young Brothers, Proprietors

The C. O. D. Steam Laundry is the successor of the old Durango Steam Laundry. The plant and business were partially purchased in December last, at which time E. C. Young, of Chicago, acquired a two-thirds interest. In April he bought the remaining interest and went into partnership with his brother, F. L. Young, with whom he had been associated in the laundry business in Chicago. The brothers sold out their interests in the Windy City and added considerable new machinery to their Durango plant, equipping it for the highest class of laundry work.

Since taking the local laundry, the Young brothers have given the people of Durango the best laundry service the city has ever known. Their work is uniform in excellence and approaches perfection as nearly as can be done by experts operating the latest improved machinery. No chemicals or acids are used, and the water is distilled. Considerable attention is paid to the outside trade, and the laundry receives regular shipments of laundry bundles from Silverton, Lumberton, Edith, Chama, Aztec, Farmington, Mancos, and other surrounding towns.





## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### LA PLATA BOTTLING WORKS

John Olbert, Proprietor

In selecting Durango's representative for "The Great San Juan," the editor has made it an aim to mention the prominent enterprises in the various lines of manufacture and trade, and to give special prominence to those men and institutions which are connected to some extent with the history of the city. In preparing this sketch, it is gratifying to be able to state that the La Plata Bottling Works is one of Durango's important industries, and John Olbert, its proprietor, is one of the city's prosperous men.

The La Plata Bottling Works is an enterprise associated with the later epoch of development and growth in



LA PLATA BOTTLING WORKS.

the Smelter City. The business was established in 1891, by its present proprietor, and has kept pace with the progress of which it has been a part. From a comparatively small beginning, it has grown to its present proportions as a direct result of sagacious business management, and, if the future may be predicted on a basis of past development, not many years will elapse until the present capacity and output of the works are doubled.

Mr. Olbert manifested his good business judgment at the outstart in securing the local agency for Coor's Golden beer. While this brew is practically unknown outside of

Colorado and New Mexico, it is very popular with Coloradans, being by many esteemed as superior to eastern beers. Whatever its standing in the San Juan when Mr. Olbert took the agency, it is certainly in great demand by beer drinkers now and is regarded as a staple by all retail liquor dealers. It is made from the purest hops and contains no adulterant ingredients, being a clear amber in color, of refreshing flavor and of healthful properties.

The La Plata Bottling Works were built by Adolph Coor, and number three buildings, the main building being a two-story structure, 60x25 feet in dimension. Besides the main building, there is a boiler house, 10x16 feet, back of which is a 16x70 foot ice house. All are of brick. The ice house has a capacity of 135 tons of ice, and a temperature of from 38 to 40 degrees is maintained within the sixteen inch walls. The boiler is an eight horsepower. The appliances in the bottling works are all modern and the latest improved in use. Before long Mr. Olbert contemplates putting in his own ice plant, and the works then will be the most complete in this section of the state.

Mr. Olbert receives consignments of Coor's Golden beer direct from the brewery and in car lots. In all he uses five cars in the month of July, and that represents his average for summer months. In winter the average is nearer four cars per month. He buys his bottles by the carload and has his own private label. A part of his shipments is sold in the keg, to be on tap at saloons, but the greater part is bottled for sale to retail liquor dealers and to the family trade. Mr. Olbert's trade is by no means confined to Durango. He does a large business with surrounding towns as far north as Silverton, west to Dolores, east to Chama, and south to the settlements of northern New Mexico.

John Olbert was born in Germany, but has been in the United States since he was seven years of age. He was reared to the brewery business, and has never been associated with any other line. In reflecting upon his career, the writer is reminded of a statement of one of our German consuls, to wit: "The German excels in industry, perseverance and thrift. These virtues enable him to accomplish great results in almost any field of enterprise he may choose to enter."

### THE GOODMAN PAINT AND WALL PAPER COMPANY

The Goodman Paint and Wall Paper Company is composed of Frank and George Goodman. The house was founded by Frank Goodman twenty-one years ago, and is one of the oldest mercantile houses in the San Juan. George Goodman purchased an interest in 1882, the year after the house was established, and the two have since conducted the business. They have been so long in business in Durango that they are known all over the San Juan, not only as men especially skilled in their line of work, but also as reliable and trustworthy business men. Their past record, during which they have done work on almost every building erected in Durango, justifies the statement that any contract they undertake will be executed in the most artistic and workmanlike manner.

The stock carried by this house is the largest in southwestern Colorado, and includes, besides paints,



INTERIOR, GOODMAN PAINT AND WALL PAPER CO'S STORE



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

glass, painters' supplies, picture mouldings and art materials, a complete line of the latest styles of wall papers and decorations, such as lincrusta-waltons, satin stripes, pressed leathers and combinations, together with a full assortment of fancy room mouldings. Making picture frames to order is a specialty of the business, and painting, paper hanging and interior decorating in all its branches is done by contract, in accordance with specifications named. The company manufactures nearly all

its own paints, being better able to produce a grade suited to local climatic conditions than the large manufacturers who must prepare a brand for general use and for sale in every market regardless of varying conditions.

The Goodmans have been too long residents of the San Juan to require commendation. They are pioneers of the 80-s, and they are pioneers of the present day, too, whenever occasion calls for someone to take the initiative in matters of public progress.

### GILBERT'S MILLINERY PARLORS

In every city of any importance in the civilized world there is one place, above all others, recognized by the votaries of fashion as headquarters for some particular line pertaining to the feminine wardrobe. In no instance is this fact more conspicuous than in the preference evidenced by the ladies for the thoroughly metropolitan millinery establishment.

Gilbert's millinery parlors have been for years the recognized bon ton millinery establishment of Durango. The business was established in 1893, and two years later absorbed the stock and trade formerly owned by Mrs. Lemon, so that Gilbert's is the only first-class millinery store in the city. The parlors are none the less attractive, however, for want of competition, and patrons are so well satisfied with the stock, prices and methods of business that it is doubtful if another milliner could establish a trade in the city.

The stock carried is as diverse as are the tastes of a community, and comprises a very complete line of everything for ladies' headwear, including pattern hats, untrimmed hats, skeletons and frames, ribbons, ostrich plumes and every description of trimming. Artistic trimmers are employed, and hats are trimmed to order. Many of the hats that are on display are the creations of the trimming room, and, but for price, any of them cannot be distinguished from pattern hats.

Gilbert's parlors are conducted by Misses L. C., A. C. and M. E. Gilbert, sisters and equal owners of the business. Miss L. C. Gilbert makes two trips a year to New York,

where she buys the latest ideas in feminine headgear. Having been formerly located in New York City, she is well acquainted with the jobbers, and is enabled not only



INTERIOR, GILBERT'S.

to secure the latest designs, but important discounts, as well. The sisters are all ladies of refined taste, and are held in high regard by friends and patrons alike.

Addenda: Owing to the failing health of one of the sisters, the Misses Gilbert desire to sell their business. A reference to their books will show the past season to be the best in the history of the store.

### MISS CLARKE--Modiste

That Durango could possess a modiste of Miss Clarke's reputation speaks more eloquently for the fashionable character of the Smelter City's ladies than mere words. Modistes of Miss Clarke's reputation do not go where there is not a demand for fashionable dressmaking. The average city of Durango's population is satisfied with the average dressmaker, and if anything above the ordinary gown is seen on the street, it is usually from elsewhere.

That well-dressed ladies are the rule and not the exception in Durango is evidenced by the fact that there has been sufficient work of the higher class to justify Miss Clarke in remaining continuously in the city for the past five years. Of course there are seasons in dressmaking, the same as in tailoring, but there has always been enough work in Miss Clarke's parlors to keep her occupied, and, at the height of the seasons, she frequently finds difficulty in securing the necessary force of skilled needle workers.

Miss Clarke does all cutting and fitting herself. She subscribes for the standard fashion magazines, and keeps abreast of the very latest styles. Her fashion plates are elaborate, and represent the prevailing fads to the minutest detail. But this is not what makes Miss Clarke's dresses and suits distinguished for their set and effect. It is the indefinable sense we call taste. She seems to possess a natural faculty for producing the effects best suited to the figure and carriage of women, and ladies who rely upon her taste may grace any company in which they are placed.

No higher tribute can be paid women of the present day than to recognize in them the culture and refinement of ladies of all periods, and the business capacity and acumen, which have been, in woman, a development of recent years. Miss Clarke has assumed the responsibilities of business without losing any of the delicacy of her refined womanhood.



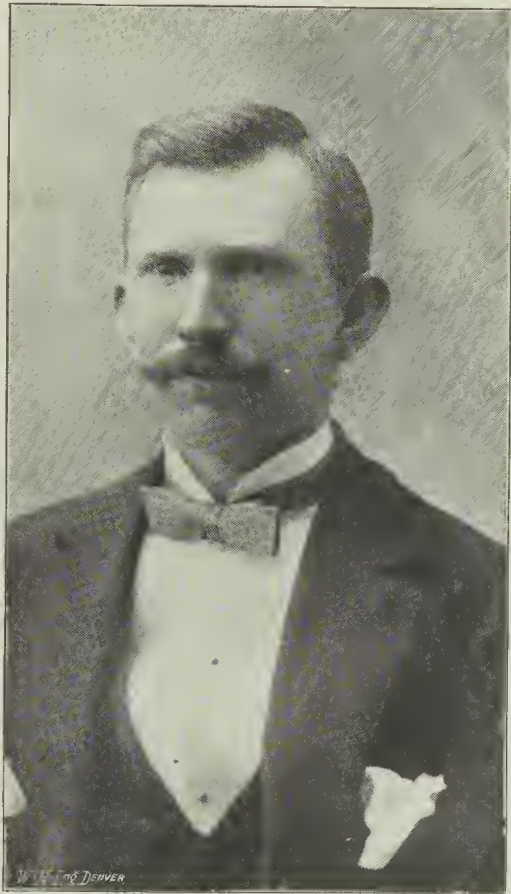


## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### COULSON BROTHERS

Bayfield. Colorado

Bayfield is one of the new towns of southwestern Colorado, and, through the public spirit of Coulson, Bros., the leading general merchants of the place, the major portion of the firm's space in "The Great San Juan" will be devoted to Bayfield and the section of which the town is the center.



D. C. COULSON.

There has been a small settlement at this point on the Pine river since 1888, the postoffice having been known as Los Pinos, and the farmers of the surrounding country had for years traded at the store, blacksmith shop and flour mill—the three enterprises that constituted the commercial elements of Los Pinos—when, in March, 1898, the townsite of Bayfield was laid out. The new name was officially recognized by the postal authorities the following year, and the growth of the town dated from that event.

Bayfield now has a population of 200, and the territory commercially tributary to the town supports not less than ten times that population. There are four stores, a restaurant, a hotel, a livery, three blacksmith shops, a flour mill, a school house with 144 pupils enrolled, three churches, and no saloons. The town is well built, and the number of fresh, unpainted buildings evidences its prosperous growth.

The town is in La Plata county, about 20 miles east of Durango and ten miles from Ignacio its daily mail service coming in and going out via the latter point. It is in the midst of a wide and fertile area adapted to agriculture and grazing, and there are now fully 1,500 families and 40,000 head of stock in the 500 square miles about Bayfield. Probably a third of this wide expanse is arable soil, and a third of such land is already occupied. The balance is excellent range. There is an abundance of water for irrigation, and an extensive canal system, tapping Pine river and Beaver creek, has already been constructed. This country bids fair to be traversed by a standard gauge rail-

road if the D. & R. G. builds one into Durango by the proposed route.

Coulson Bros. established their business in Bayfield a year and a half ago, and now have the largest general store in the town. Their stock valued at \$10,000.00, fairly gorges the salesroom, which has recently been enlarged to 25x100 feet in dimension, and fills, besides, a basement 25x50. A room 15x100 feet, will be built above the main salesroom for the storage of furniture. The firm also has a steam elevator and feed mill, the former having a storage capacity for 25,000 bushels, and the buying and selling of grain is an important feature of the business. All merchandise is bought by the carload, where practicable, and the stock embraces everything in demand by the trade of the house, which extends as far east as Piedra. Two clerks and a bookkeeper (Mrs. D. C. Coulson) are employed.

The firm of Coulson Bros. is composed of Messrs. D. C. and V. L. Coulson, both natives of Colorado. Mr. D. C. Coulson is the manager of the business, his brother being a locomotive engineer on the line of the D. & R. G. narrow gauge system. Before opening up the firm's store at Bayfield, Mr. Coulson was eleven years in the sales department of The Graden Mercantile Company, of Durango, and was city treasurer of Durango one term. He was eminently fitted to make a success of merchandising on his own account.

Coulson Bros. are the chief stockholders of The King Consolidated Ditch Company, now constructing a canal that will water, when finished, upwards of 20,000 acres of land. Mr. D. C. Coulson is the treasurer of the company.



ONE OF BAYFIELD'S CHURCHES.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### J. P. ANGLIM

District Attorney

The present age is the age of the young man. In all walks of life the man of gray is making way for the vigor, the energy, the vitality of the young. This tendency is less apparent, because less rapid, in the east, and is less conspicuous, because less common, in the professions, but the pre-eminence of the young man is general in a positive degree, and, even in the province of law, the veneration of silver hairs is second to admiration of virulent youth. And it is as it should be. The snowy heads will soon be gone, and the burden of national responsibility will rest upon the stalwart shoulders of their sons.

James P. Anglim is one of the rising young men of the San Juan. Born in the cradle of fame, the great commonwealth of Ohio, Mr. Anglim's debut upon the stage of life was most auspicious. He received a high school education in his native town of Lancaster, and was reared in the midst of strong democratic influences, Fairfield county, in which Lancaster is located, having been, from the earliest days down to the present, the sturdiest democratic stronghold in Ohio. After a three-year course in the state university, he engaged in mercantile pursuits in Columbus, where he remained in business for a number of years.

It is difficult to learn just where Mr. Anglim began reading law. From the time he was old enough to assert a preference, he was confident that the legal profession was his destiny, and it is probable that he began his chosen study soon after leaving school. In speaking of the subject himself, Mr. Anglim says he read law out of business hours for years before he finally abandoned merchandising to enter a school of law.

During Mr. Anglim's course at the Denver Law School, he was associated with the late Henry C. Van Schaack, one of the ablest attorneys of Colorado, and he rightly considers his experience of three years in Mr. Van Schaack's office of equal value to his regular course; for, while mastering the theory of law, he was in the meantime gaining a valuable knowledge of its actual practice, so that, on being admitted to the bar, he was not situated as are so many young lawyers, graduates of eminent colleges, who have to beg prominent law firms to accept their apprenticeship gratis, that they may familiarize themselves with the forms of legal practice.

Mr. Anglim came to the San Juan country less than two years ago. He established his residence in Rico in 1900, and opened offices there April 1st., of that year. It was there that he first manifested an interest in Colorado politics, though he had, ever since his residence in the state, evinced a keen interest in national issues, and his brilliancy at the bar ordained that he was not long to remain obscure in the political arena of his adopted home. The recognition of his exceptional abilities was signalized in the democratic convention held in September of his first year, when he was nominated as a candidate for district attorney of the Sixth Judicial district, on the straight democratic ticket. There were two other tickets in the field, and the 1,200 plurality he received, running far ahead of his ticket in his own bailiwick, eloquently voiced the eminence to which he had risen within a few months.

District Attorney Anglim took the oath of office January 1st., of the present year, at the same time transferring his office and residence to Durango, from which point he could more ably administer the duties of his responsible trust.

The Sixth Judicial district embraces the whole of Dolores, Montezuma, La Plata, San Juan and Archuleta counties. Mr. Anglim has but one deputy, Benj. F. Russell, of Silverton, in this wide territory, and the duties of his office are exceedingly onerous; but he has discharged them with a religious regard to the people's rights, and his official career has so far justified the statement that he regards the entire people his constituents, regardless of party affiliations or political prejudices. His success has been almost phenomenal. Of twelve cases of felony that he has prosecuted during the year, not one has gone against the people, and this, we believe, establishes a record in the legal annals of the district.



J. P. ANGLIM.

Mr. Anglim's term of office will run the official term of three years, besides which he will hold over a year on the following term. If he has any ambition for reelection, all that will be necessary for him to do is to take the elapsed portion of his administration for an example and continue as he has begun. But the future may hold better in store for him, and it is not improbable that it does, for a political organization does not overlook men of his popularity, to whose ability and integrity in office the attention of voters may be directed.

Mr. Anglim has had a strong voice in his party councils since coming to Durango, and is now chairman of the La Plata county democratic central committee. He marshalled the party's forces during the recent county campaign and put up a conspicuously clean and vigorous fight for the principles of democracy.





# THE GREAT SAN JUAN

## JOHN KELLENBERGER

One of Durango's Prominent Wholesalers

John Kellenberger was born in Switzerland, but came to the United States in 1880, while yet a youth in his 'teens. He first touched American soil at New York, and he had been less than a year in the Great Republic when he came west to Denver. A year later he went to Breckenridge, where he established a bakery. He had not yet mastered English when, in 1883, or about the time he attained his majority, he sold out his bakery and went to California. He became extensively interested in wineries in the Golden state, and accumulated a comfortable fortune. He was one of the founders of South Riverside, Pomona and Ontario, in southern California, and still retains valuable real estate interests in that section of the state.

Coming to Durango in 1892, Kellenberger established a wholesale liquor and cigar business, putting in the largest stock of imported and domestic wines, liquors and cigars that had ever been brought into the San Juan. He secured standard brands, well-known in every market, and started out on the road to establish his trade. His goods brought him an immediate patronage from local retailers, and, it was only a question of time until he had introduced his goods to the trade in every town in southwestern Colorado and northern New Mexico.

Mr. Kellenberger represents Bernheim Bros., of Louisville, Kentucky, the largest distillers in the world, Harper and many of his best whiskies, such as Columbine, Monogram, Bridal Veil and Sunflower, are the product of these great stills, though they are Mr. Kellenberger's own private brands. He also sells the celebrated I. W. Harper whiskies, which were awarded gold medals at New Orleans, in 1885, at Chicago, in 1892, and at Paris last year, 1900, in recognition of their purity and excellence. In California wines, Mr. Kellenberger handles the product controlled by Lachman & Jacoby, and ships direct from San Francisco. He also handles imported wines, brandies, gins, ales, beers and cordials. He makes somewhat of a specialty of his Spaten Brew Muchen, German beer, and serves quite an extensive local family trade by the case.

Mr. Kellenberger buys all liquors and bottles by the carload, doing his bottling right here in Durango. Buying in such quantities and bottling here, he saves a large margin on freight tariffs, and is thereby enabled to put his goods on the market, both bottled and in bulk, at prices that defy competition. To this advantage as much as to the high standard of quality Mr. Kellenberger's brands represent, is due his phenomenal success, and the people of the San Juan who congratulate themselves that they are patronizing home enterprise in buying of him sacrifice nothing for their patriotism. There is one beverage Mr. Kellenberger puts up that has won a reputation all over the San Juan, and as far as Cripple Creek, Pueblo and New Mexico; that is his Raspberry Julep. This julep is a refreshing, delightful beverage, blended to the connoisseur's taste, and is in demand by every first-class bar, hospital and family. It is par excellence the best julep on the market, and belongs in a class entirely to itself.

In the line of imported and domestic cigars, Mr. Kellenberger carries one of the most extensive lines, both as regards variety and quantity, in Colorado. Among the more expensive brands are the Columbine, Mild Domestic, Monogram, White House, El Sidelo, Chas. Carrols, Orisdale, Governor General and La Finola, the last named being a clear Havana in nine sizes. The cheaper line embraces the El Testimonio, La Gloria, Havana Sprouts, El

Merito, Marco Merito, Blue Racket, Porto Rico Crooks, Speckled Trout and Educator. The Porto Rico Crooks are Mr. Kellenberger's own patent. Their name indicates their form, and they are very popular with smokers. In fact, all the brands above named represent the best values.

As above stated, Mr. Kellenberger is his own traveling salesman and has been for years. While his trade is especially large in the San Juan, it is by no means confined to this territory. He does a large business in the Cripple Creek district and even in Denver, where he confronts the most active competition in the state. The fact that it is possible for him to sell in Cripple Creek and Denver is in itself a sufficient commentary upon his ability



JOHN KELLENBERGER.

to meet all competition as to prices. He ships directly from the factory, winery and distillery, and has recently contracted for the entire output of the distillery at Farmington, New Mexico. Besides his Durango house he maintains a wholesale liquor establishment in Chicago, his place of business being a substantial 5-story building (his own property) at 116 Franklin street.

Mr. Kellenberger is a man of family, his wife and children residing in Durango. He has two daughters, eight and ten years of age, attending school during the school year in the Smelter City, who are good naturedly referred to as "those boys," Mr. Kellenberger having facetiously remarked that all his boys were girls. It is quite a hoax among his friends, and wherever he goes inquiries are made concerning "those boys." Mr. Kellenberger is a public spirited man, and one who stands very high in business circles in Durango and throughout the state. He is liberal and progressive, and, in short, such a man as benefits a community by his enterprise and pluck.



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### T. A. KERR

Owner of the Hermosa Ranch

Among the early ranchers of the Animas who still remain to cultivate their fertile acres, is T. A. Kerr, owner of the Hermosa Ranch. Mr. Kerr is a native of Missouri, having been born in that state in 1849, and was reared on a



MR AND MRS. T. A. KERR

farm. He was a pioneer of the early 70's to Colorado, settling first in the Arkansas valley near Pueblo, where he had extensive cattle and flouring mill interests. He came to the San Juan in '76, and built and operated the first lumber and flour mills in La Plata county. He also put up the first school building in old Animas City, and was one of the early county commissioners of La Plata county, serving in that official capacity at the time the county seat was removed from Parrott City to Durango. That is the only political office he has ever held, though, had he aspired to preferment, his party might have gone far to find a man so generally respected and of equal integrity.

Mr. Kerr was one of the first ranchers on the Animas. His Hermosa Ranch, as the property appears today, with its modern improvements, bears little resemblance to the

tract that he purchased nearly 20 years ago. There have, since that time, been some acquisitions and sales, but it is not in the altered boundaries that the change is apparent. It is in its fine modern buildings, well kept orchards and cultivated fields—in short, in everything that differentiates the Hermosa Ranch from the typical western ranch and that likens it to the well tilled and expensively improved farm of the east—that the transformation is noticeable.

Like all good ranchers, Mr. Kerr has ample barn facilities, but, unlike many, he has regarded the comforts of his family as of even greater importance than that of his stock, and, accordingly, has built one of the finest country houses in the southwest. In architecture, his residence would grace a city avenue, and is as well furnished as many a fashionable home. The outbuildings are well kept, and enhance rather than detract from the general pleasing effect. One of these, a greenhouse, 20x100, is used for flora and vegetable culture. It is provided with steam heat and patent ventilators and watering devices, so that any desired degree of temperature and humidity may be maintained. Mr. Kerr sells his hot-house vegetables at all seasons in Durango and Silverton and ships outside to some extent.

The Hermosa Ranch comprises 240 acres, entirely devoted to orchard, garden and farm produce. The orchard is in its prime, and the annual production of apples, pears, plums, prunes and cherries runs into the thousands of boxes. Strawberries are also raised and bear luxuriantly, yielding a berry perfect in form and flavor. Vegetables of all kinds flourish, and a failure of crops seems to be a disaster to which this fertile region is immune. Mr. Kerr raises about 20 acres of potatoes and 60 acres of alfalfa each year, the latter being more particularly for his own stock, which comprises horses and cattle. His cattle are all Holsteins, and he owns one of the finest thoroughbred Holstein bulls in the state.

Mr. Kerr has a wife and six children. Mrs. Kerr, whose portrait is reproduced with that of her husband, is matron of the domestic affairs at the ranch, and is a true helpmate. She is a lady of refined instincts and tender sympathies. Mr. Kerr is no less a man of honorable and upright character, and one who contributes liberally, both by industry and public spirit to the growth and prosperity of the country back of Durango.



T. A. KERR'S HERMOSA RANCH



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN

### J. W. BUCKLEY

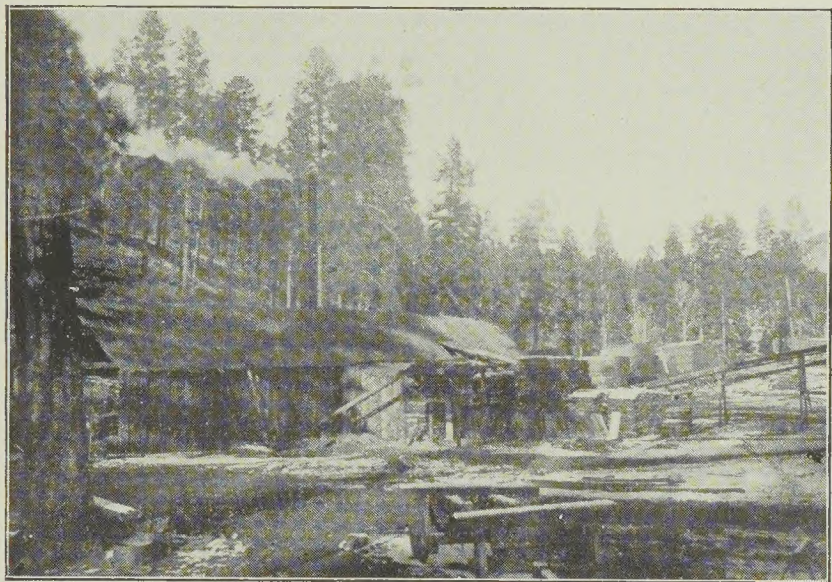
Manufacturer and Wholesale Lumber Dealer

J. W. Buckley is one of the oldest manufacturers of lumber in the state of Colorado. Born in Essex county, New York, and reared in Vermont, he came to Colorado in '79, and has been 22 years identified with the lumbering industry of this state and of New Mexico.

Before building the mill he now owns, on the Florida,

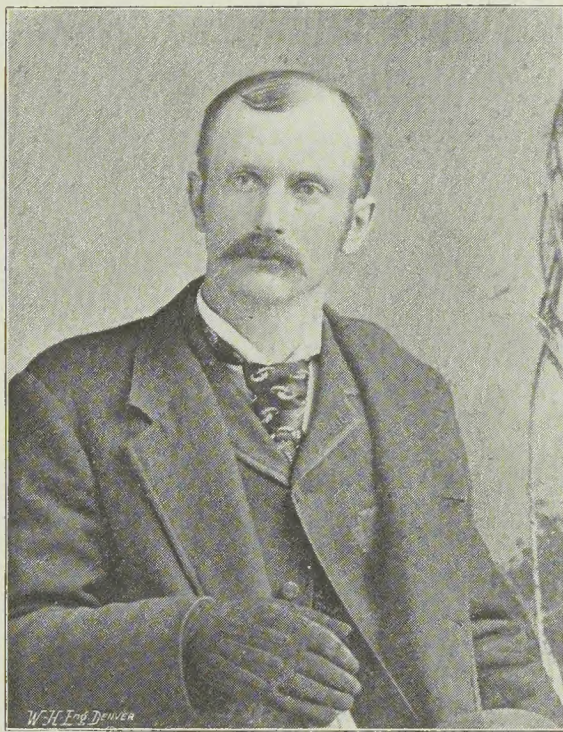
their daily 10-hour run. The timber is bought on the stump from ranchers, and the finished product is sold all over the state. A planing mill is a part of the equipment.

Mr. Buckley and his family live in a handsome residence on the mill property. He has two manly sons, attending Boulder university.



BUCKLEY'S SAWMILL, ON THE FLORIDA.

about 13 miles from Durango, Mr. Buckley was nine years a prominent resident and lumber manufacturer of Mancos. His Florida mills, which are managed by George M. Carr, also formerly of Mancos, have a capacity of 25,000 ft. for



J. W. BUCKLEY.

### FRANK GONNER

No branch of business has been more rapidly or scientifically developed within the last two decades than that of photography. It has called to its aid the most skilled inventors and the most careful students of art. But while there are many photographers who produce effects far superior to those obtainable a few years ago, there are yet too few who may be really termed artists.

Durango is very fortunate in possessing a photographer of more than ordinary ability, in the person of Frank Gonner, many of whose landscape and portrait photographs are reproduced in half-tone in this magazine. Two of these latter, which appear under the title of "Durango Century Plants," are masterpieces of art, and the reader is respectfully referred to them. For examples of his landscape work, no better reference can be made than to those reproduced in Boston Coal & Fuel Co's article.

Mr. Gonner's studio is equipped with fine cameras, and the skylights are so adjusted that the best effects of light and shade may be produced. His work has won him a wide reputation, and is praised highly, not only in this part of the country, but everywhere it is sent, even by the photographers to the Court of St. James, of London. Eng., as testimonials to that effect in possession of Durango parties will show, and there are, indeed, many cities of far greater population than Durango that are less favored in this respect than the Smelter City.

### FINANCIAL DURANGO

Durango invites a comparison of its financial institutions with those of other municipalities of equal population. The city has three banks with deposits aggregating considerably over a million dollars. Two of these, the First National and Smelter City National, are governed by the federal laws regulating institutions of the kind, and have demonstrated their stability by weathering every financial strain the country has experienced since their organization.

The third, the Colorado State Bank, which maintains a branch at Pagosa Springs, is both a commercial and savings bank, and is the strongest institution of the kind in southwestern Colorado. Its strength was particularly shown during the panic of 1893, when it established an enviable rank in financial circles in this section of the state for the strength of its cash assets and for its protection of patrons. It is especially strong in the allegiance and regard it manifests toward all who deal with it, and is active in promoting and caring for their interests. This bank issues regular statements of its condition in accordance with the state laws.

It is an interesting, though irrelevant observation, and one in no manner intended to reflect on the integrity of purely commercial banks, that the 1,000 savings banks in the United States carry deposits exceeding those of the country's 6,000 national banks.

### HERMAN C. SCHRODER

Herman C. Schroder is one of the earliest settlers on the Pine river. Years before there was any town on the present site of Bayfield, his flour mill stood as a distance mark

between Durango and the eastern boundary of La Plata county.

Mr. Schroder's mill has been an element in the up-



## THE GREAT SAN JUAN.

building of the country about Bayfield, for it has given the farmers of that section a local market for their grain. Its capacity of 35 barrels of flour daily is totally inadequate to present needs, and it is not improbable that it will be materially increased.

Mr. Schroder was one of the successful candidates on the republican ticket this fall, having been elected one of La Plata's county commissioners. He is a trustworthy, conservative man, and will administer the duties of his office with strict integrity.

### DURANGO PLUMBING COMPANY

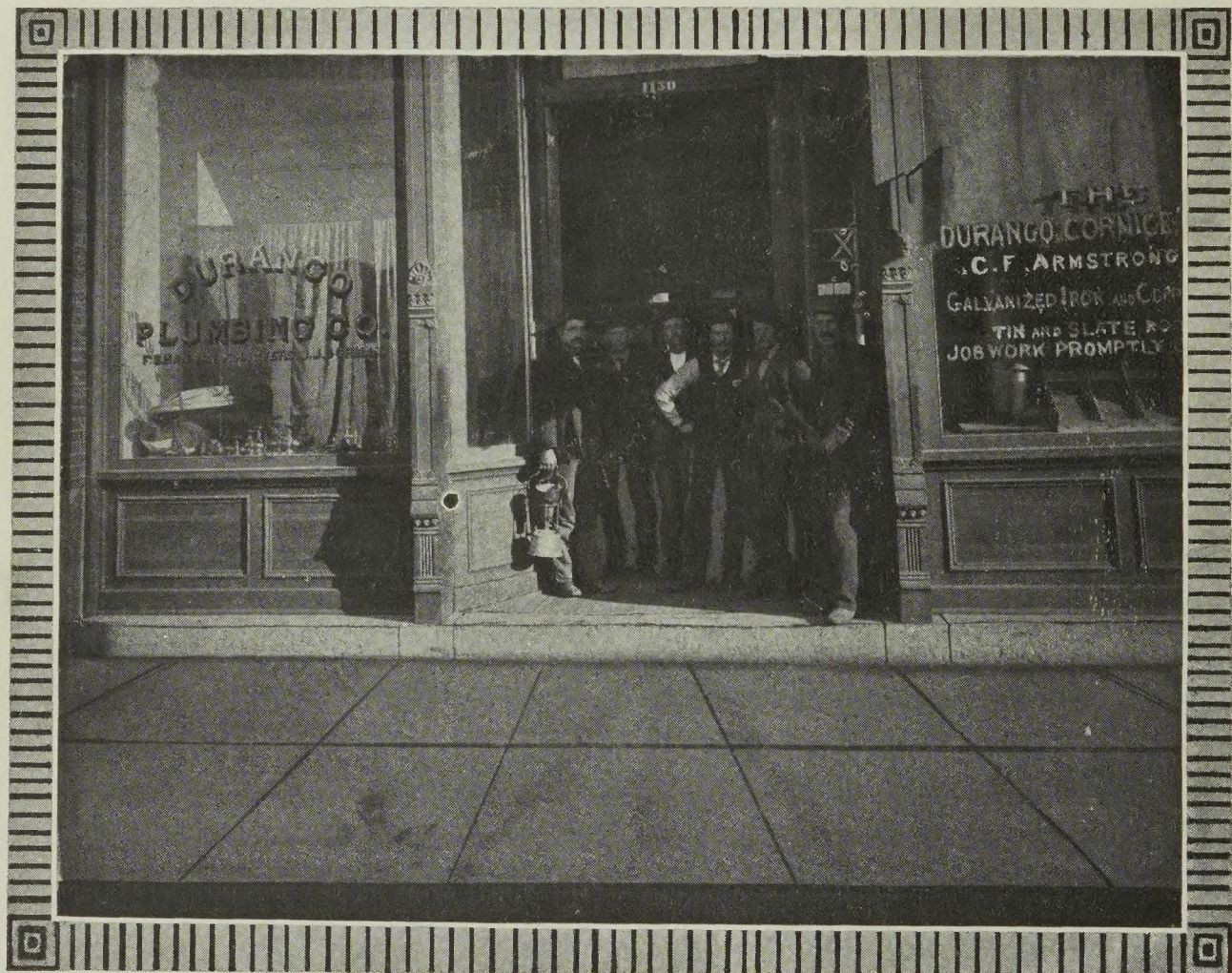
It may be doubted if a greater advance has been made along any line of changes in modern life and customs than in the matter of sanitary plumbing. It is now frequently asserted that it is of far greater importance to us that our plumber should be expert than that our physician be the best.

In the light of the above statement, the people of Durango are to be congratulated in the possession of a firm of plumbers who have made the science of sanitation a study, and who are competent to put their knowledge to practical use from a mechanical standpoint. Residents of La Plata county will recognize the reference as applying to the Durango Plumbing Company.

The Durango Plumbing Company is not a corporation.

rear, is equipped with all the latest improved machine tools. Only expert journeyman workmen are employed, and the company guarantees all work turned out to be absolutely first class. Estimates are submitted on request, and the company is prepared to execute work anywhere in the southwest.

James J. Gorman was born in New York City, in 1865. He learned his trade in the metropolis, and came from New York to Colorado in 1891. He came to Durango the following year, and, in 1893, entered into partnership with his present business associate. He has since been closely identified with the interests of the city, and, since 1898, has been connected with the municipal government as city water commissioner.



DURANGO PLUMBING COMPANY'S PLACE OF BUSINESS

It is the style under which Messrs. James J. Gorman and Frank H. Rivers conduct business, and, as such, has come to represent the highest standard of workmanship and honorable business methods all over the San Juan. The company began business in 1893, and it has executed practically all the large contracts for work in the business blocks, residences and schools of Durango let since that date. The company put in the plumbing and heating plants for the Longfellow, New Park and Whittier school buildings in Durango; did all of the plumbing in the Trimble Springs Hotel, and has done work in various parts of the San Juan.

The company carries a line of plumbers' supplies, and bath tubs, sinks, washstands, closets, etc., are on display in the salesroom. The shop, which is immediately in the

Frank H. Rivers owes his nativity to Boston, where he was born in 1863. He learned his trade in the large plumbing establishments of the Hub. He came west in 1889, locating in Denver, where he remained until 1891, in which year he came to Durango. Mr Rivers has also been prominent in local politics, having been elected as the alderman of the ward in which he lives, first in 1897 and at each succeeding election.

Messrs. Gorman and Rivers are men of long and valuable experience in their business, themselves expert workmen, and men of business ability and strict integrity. Besides their local plumbing business, they are interested in mining in the Oro Fino district. They are men who have staked everything on the future of Durango, and they are liberal in contributing to the community's growth.







